

# MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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STATE OF MAINE  
130<sup>TH</sup> LEGISLATURE  
FIRST REGULAR AND FIRST SPECIAL SESSIONS



Disposition of bills and summaries of all laws enacted or finally passed

**JOINT STANDING COMMITTEE ON HEALTH AND  
HUMAN SERVICES**

December 2021

**STAFF:**

ANNA BROOME, SR. LEGISLATIVE ANALYST  
ERIN DOOLING, LEGISLATIVE ANALYST  
OFFICE OF POLICY AND LEGAL ANALYSIS  
13 STATE HOUSE STATION  
AUGUSTA, ME 04333  
(207) 287-1670  
<http://legislature.maine.gov/opla/>

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\*Committee member for a portion of the session

## JOINT STANDING COMMITTEE ON HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES

### **LD 24 An Act Regarding Certificates of Birth, Marriage and Death**

#### **ENACTED LAW SUMMARY**

Public Law 2021, chapter 49 makes the following changes to the laws regulating certificates of birth, marriage and death.

1. It clarifies that the signatures on a marriage license of the parties to the intended marriage may be obtained at the issuance of the license or at the time the marriage is solemnized.
2. It requires that when a death or marriage occurs in an unincorporated place, it must be recorded or registered in the electronic registration system.
3. It clarifies that a birth certificate may be amended by the replacement of a genetic parent.
4. It corrects a conflict created by Public Law 2019, chapters 82 and 340, which affected the same provision of law, by incorporating the changes made by both laws.
5. It also makes technical changes to align the law with the Maine Parentage Act and makes other technical changes.

### **LD 38 An Act To Clarify the Timing of an Appeal of a Finding Regarding Involuntary Mental Health Treatment at a Designated Nonstate Mental Health Institution**

#### **ENACTED LAW SUMMARY**

Public Law 2021, chapter 165 amends the process governing a request for review by the Commissioner of Health and Human Services or the commissioner's designee of an order of a clinical review panel regarding involuntary mental health treatment at a designated nonstate mental health institution.

### **LD 47 An Act To Fund the State's Free Health Clinics**

#### **ENACTED LAW SUMMARY**

Public Law 2021, chapter 458 appropriates one-time funding of \$40,000 of General Fund in Fiscal Year 2021-2022 and \$50,000 of General Fund in Fiscal Year 2022-2023 for the State's free health clinics. It requires the Department of Health and Human Services to provide this funding to the State's free health clinics through a grant process and that, as a condition of receiving grant funding, a free health clinic must, no later than December 15, 2021 report to the department information about how the grant funding would be used by the clinic. It also requires the Commissioner of Health and Human Services to report to the Joint Standing Committee on Health and Human Services no later than January 15, 2022 with information on which clinics were

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awarded funds, how much each clinic received and how the grant funding was used by the clinics. The committee is authorized to submit legislation relating to the report to the Second Regular Session of the 130th Legislature.

### **LD 78 An Act To Protect Children from Extreme Poverty by Preserving Children's Access to Temporary Assistance for Needy Families Benefits**

#### **ENACTED LAW SUMMARY**

Public Law 2021, chapter 97 amends eligibility for the Temporary Assistance for Needy Families program. Current law requires the Department of Health and Human Services to terminate assistance under the Temporary Assistance for Needy Families program to the entire family, including children, if the children's parent fails to comply with the requirements of the family contract for a period of 90 days or for any subsequent failure. Public Law 2021, chapter 97 amends that provision to terminate benefits for the noncomplying parent but continues to provide assistance to the children and complying parents. The law also requires the department to submit an interim and a final report to the Joint Standing Committee on Health and Human Services on the implementation of the removal of the full family unit sanction.

### **LD 81 An Act To Ensure the Safety of Children Experiencing Homelessness by Extending Shelter Placement Periods and Amending Licensing Requirements for Emergency Shelters**

#### **ENACTED LAW SUMMARY**

Public Law 2021, chapter 98 amends the laws governing facilities for children. It amends the definition of "emergency children's shelter" to extend placement from 30 consecutive days or less to 90 consecutive days or less, and it amends the definition of "shelter for homeless children" to extend the limit on overnight lodging and supervision from 30 consecutive overnights to 90 consecutive overnights.

The law also directs the Department of Health and Human Services to amend its rule Chapter 9: Rules for the Licensing of Emergency Shelters for Children to make it consistent with the notification requirements for facilities licensed under rule Chapter 8: Rules for the Licensure of Shelters for Homeless Children and specifically to allow the admission of a child into care for up to three hours without first notifying the child's guardian. It also directs the department to amend its rule Chapter 9: Rules for the Licensing of Emergency Shelters for Children to require a facility to allow the admission of a child into care for up to 48 hours without the permission of the child's guardian.