

MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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STATE OF MAINE
130TH LEGISLATURE
FIRST REGULAR AND FIRST SPECIAL SESSIONS



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

**JOINT STANDING COMMITTEE ON CRIMINAL JUSTICE
AND PUBLIC SAFETY**

December 2021

STAFF:

JANE ORBETON, SR. 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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JOINT STANDING COMMITTEE ON CRIMINAL JUSTICE AND PUBLIC SAFETY

LD 1674 An Act To Improve Access to Medical Care for and Expand the Rights of Adult Clients of State Correctional Facilities

ENACTED LAW SUMMARY

Public Law 2021, chapter 359 provides a mechanism for adult clients housed in correctional facilities to provide input to the chief administrative officers of the facilities regarding health care and mental health services. The law exempts clients who are indigent from fees charged for health care, dental and mental health records. The law requires the Commissioner of Corrections to adopt policies regarding property searches, strip searches and body cavity searches.

LD 1675 An Act To Amend Certain Provisions of Maine's Drug Laws

ENACTED LAW SUMMARY

Public Law 2021, chapter 396 amends the laws on illegal drugs and removes from the definitions of "traffick" and "furnish" the specific weights and amounts of certain drugs that a person possesses. The law creates a permissible inference of trafficking in drugs when a person possesses four grams or more of heroin or fentanyl powder. The law creates permissible inferences of furnishing drugs when a person possesses two grams or more of heroin or fentanyl powder. The law repeals references to cocaine base in the laws governing permissible inferences of drug trafficking and drug furnishing.

LD 1699 An Act To Establish the Southern Aroostook County Emergency Medical Services Authority

ENACTED LAW SUMMARY

Private and Special Law 2021, chapter 12 establishes the Southern Aroostook County Emergency Medical Services Authority to facilitate the provision of emergency medical services to residents of southern Aroostook County. The authority is required to prepare an annual budget and have performed an annual audit, to follow uniform standards, to make provisions for member towns and towns that may contract for services with the authority and to set a fee schedule. The law permits the towns in southern Aroostook County to become member towns of the Southern Aroostook County Emergency Medical Services Authority. The law establishes a board of directors of one member from each member town and requires the appointment of an alternate for each town. The law sets the directors' terms at three years but, in order to stagger terms, sets initial terms of two years for representatives of Amity, Hodgdon, Littleton, Merrill and Smyrna.

Private and Special Law 2021, chapter 12 was enacted as an emergency measure effective June 30, 2021.