



Overview of the 126th Maine Legislature & Current Health Care Issues



Constitutional Protections for "Lobbying"

- Amendment I to the U.S. Constitution:
"Congress shall make no law . . . abridging . . . the right . . . to petition the government for a redress of grievances."
- Article I, Section 15 of the Maine Constitution, Right of Petition



The Policy Makers

- 186 Legislators
 - 125th Legislature (2011-2012)
 - 19 R, 15 D, 1 U in Senate
 - 77 R, 70 D, 2 U, 2 vacancies in House
 - 126th Legislature (2013-2014)
 - 19 D, 15 R, 1 U in Senate
 - 89 D, 58 R, 4 U in House
- 151 members of the House of Representatives, each representing 8443 citizens
- 35 Senators, each representing 36,426 citizens
- All elected every 2 years for maximum of 4 consecutive terms
- Governor: elected every 4 years for maximum of 2 terms
- Find your legislators:
<http://www.maine.gov/legis/house/townlist.htm>



Physicians in 126th Legislature

- Rep. Linda Sanborn, M.D. (D), House District 130, parts of Buxton & Gorham
- Sen. Geoffrey Gratwick, M.D. (D), Senate District 32, Bangor & Hermon
- Rep. Ann Dorney, M.D. (D), House District 86, Madison, Norridgewock, & Solon
- Rep. Jane Pringle, M.D. (D), House District 111, part of Windham



126th Legislature's Senate Leadership

- Senate President: Sen. Justin Alfond (D-Cumberland)
- Senate Majority Leader: Sen. Seth Goodall (D-Sagadahoc)
- Assistant Senate Majority Leader: Sen. Troy Jackson (D-Aroostook)
- Senate Minority Leader: Sen. Michael Thibodeau (R-Waldo)
- Assistant Senate Minority Leader: Sen. Roger Katz (R-Kennebec)



126th Legislature's House Leadership

- Speaker of the House: Rep. Mark Eves (D-North Berwick)
- House Majority Leader: Rep. Seth Berry (D-Bowdoinham)
- Assistant House Majority Leader: Rep. Jeff McCabe (D-Skowhegan)
- House Minority Leader: Rep. Kenneth Fredette (R-Newport)
- Assistant House Minority Leader: Rep. Alexander Willette (R-Mapleton)



Tracking Maine Legislation

- Maine legislature's web site:
<http://www.maine.gov/legis>
 - Bill status: L.D. #
 - Session laws: P.L. or Resolves Chapter
 - Statutes: 24 M.R.S.A. sec. 2851
- State agency rules online:
<http://www.maine.gov/sos/cec/rules/rules.html>
- MMA "Maine Medicine *Weekly Update*" -
www.mainemed.com/legislation/index.php



Governor's Contact Info.

Office of the Governor
State House Station #1
Augusta, Maine 04333-0001
207-287-3531
207-287-1034 Fax
Governor@maine.gov



House Contact Info.

The Honorable John/Jane Doe
Maine House of Representatives
State House Station #2
Augusta, Maine 04333-0002
1-800-423-2900 (session only)
207-287-1400



Senate Contact Info.

The Honorable John/Jane Doe
The Maine Senate
State House Station #3
Augusta, Maine 04333-0003
1-800-423-6900 (session only)
207-287-1540



Key Legislative Committees

- Joint Standing Committees on:
 - Appropriations & Financial Affairs
 - Taxation
 - Labor, Commerce, Research & Economic Development
 - Health & Human Services
 - Insurance & Financial Services
 - Judiciary
- Committee membership lists with contact info.:
<http://www.maine.gov/legis/house/townlist.htm>



Maine's Path of Legislation

- Idea developed
- Bill drafted (Legislative Request or LR)
- Bill introduced (Legislative Document or LD)
- Committee reference
- Committee action (public hearing/work session(s)/vote)
- First Reading (committee amendments)
- Second Reading (floor amendments)
- Next chamber, same process (must pass in identical form in both chambers)
- Governor's action (10 days to sign or veto)
- Law (effective 90 days after adjournment, unless emergency or specified effective date; citation is "Public Law" or "Resolve")



Most Recent Health Law Summaries

- The MMA's Summary of Health Care Legislation from the 124th Maine Legislature (2009-2010) is available on the web at:
<http://www.mainemed.com/legislation/124thLegSummary.pdf>
- The MMA's Summary of Health Care Legislation from the 125th Maine Legislature, First Regular Session (2011) is available on the web at:
<http://www.mainemed.com/legislation/125thLegSummary.pdf>



Likely Health Care Issues

- State budget in deficit
- ACA implementation/health care reform
- Prescription drug diversion/abuse
- Marijuana
- Public Health: tobacco, obesity, vaccinations, gun control
- MMA legislative agenda



MMA Bills

- An Act to Amend the Health Care Practitioner Licensing, Disciplinary, and Reporting Statutes Regarding Alcohol and Drug Abuse
- An Act to Modernize the Statutes Governing Physician Assistants
- An Act to Amend the Laws Governing Prosecution of Individuals Possessing a Controlled Substance under Certain Circumstances
- An Act to Restore MaineCare Coverage for Ambulatory Surgical Center Services
- An Act to Provide Immunity for Prescribing and Dispensing Intranasal Naloxone Kits



MMA Bills (cont.)

- An Act to Amend the Postgraduate Education Requirements for Physicians Who have Completed an Accredited Residency Program in Oral and Maxillofacial Surgery
- An Act to Clarify Physician Delegation
- An Act to Amend the Prescription Monitoring Program Participation Requirements
- An Act to Amend the Maine Medical Radiation Health and Safety Act
- An Act to Amend the Health Plan Improvement Act Regarding Prescription Drug Step Therapy and Prior Authorization
- An Act to Reduce Youth Cancer Risk
- An Act Establishing the "Health Care Professional Transparency Act of 2013"



Questions?

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