

ME-RAP 132nd First Legislative Session in Review





LD 110: An Act to Require Reporting of Opioid Settlement Funds (Rep. Brennan - D)



Requires that entities receiving opioid settlement funds (OSF) submit an annual report to the Attorney General detailing how much they received and what they spent it on. Required reporting begins in 2026.



Opioid Settlement Fund Transparency



Harm Reduction Access

LD 1078: An Act to Support Maine's Public Health Objectives by Increasing Access to Evidence-based Harm Reduction Services (Rep. Rana - D)



Authorizes certified SSPs to operate mobile sites and provide delivery services within pre-approved parameters by the Maine CDC, increasing access to life-saving services.

LD 1738: An Act to Establish a Grant Program for Funding to Support Public Health Efforts in the State (Rep. Rana - D)





Public Health & Safety

Establishes a grant program administered by the Maine CDC to support safe disposal of syringes and medical waste. Grants will fund disposal containers, proper disposal, staffing, and public education efforts. The Governor is holding over LD 1738 and will have 3 days to take action when the Legislature reconvenes.



Expanding Housing Voucher Eligibility

LD 1946: An Act to Clarify the Eligibility of Certified Recovery Residences for Bridging Rental Assistance Program Housing Vouchers (Rep. Warren - D)



Individuals residing in certified recovery residences are now eligible for Bridging Rental Assistance Program (BRAP) housing vouchers. However, BRAP vouchers may not be used to subsidize the costs of residing at a recovery residence.

LD 215: An Act to Establish a Grant Program for Funding to Support Public Health Efforts in the State (Rep. Hasenfus - D)

Decreases the tax burden of large recovery residences on Maine communities by creating a maximum level of housing assistance provided to an operator of a certified recovery residence with an occupancy of 26 or more beds. If there are 26 or more beds, the State pays 70% maximum assistance and the host community does not have to pay the other 30% assistance.



Lowering Property Tax Impact of Large **Recovery Residences**



Parity in Drug Laws

LD 1366: An Act to Amend Certain Provisions of the Drug Laws Related to Cocaine Base (Rep. Milliken - D)



Removes the remaining disparities in Maine's Criminal Code regarding the treatment of cocaine and cocaine base (also known as crack cocaine).

LD 779: An Act to Fund the Aroostook County Drug Treatment Court (Sen. Carney - D)



Appropriates one-time funds for the creation of an adult drug treatment court in Aroostook County.



Expanding Access to Drug **Treatment Court**



OPPOSE = (x)





Other Bills Passed & Enacted

- LD 503 :An Act Regarding the Substance Use Disorder Services Commission (Sen. Baldacci-D)
 - The bill makes a number of changes to the membership and duties of the SUDS Commission. Notably, it adds a member who is a SUD harm reduction practitioner and a member representing federally recognized tribal nations. It requires the Commission to make recommendations relating to SUD to the legislature.
- LD 710 :An Act to Expand Access and Reduce Barriers to Access to Naloxone Hydrochloride and Other Opioid Overdosereversing Medications (Rep. Zager-D)
 - This bill removes naloxone training requirements for community-based drug overdose prevention programs and recovery residences and expands access by allowing municipalities to provide vending machines for use by the public in response to an opioid-related drug overdose. It provides additional immunity protections for all persons who may administer naloxone to another individual when they believe the other individual is experiencing an opioid related drug overdose. Further, it clarifies that healthcare professionals can dispense naloxone over the counter with or without a prescription.
- LD 1266:Resolve, Directing the Department of Health and Human Services, Office of Behavioral Health to Convene a Working Group to Propose a Plan for Expanding the Reach of Treatment Courts (Rep. Hasenfus-D)
 - Requires DHHS OBH to establish a working group, comprised of multidisciplinary group of stakeholders, to develop a plan for expanding the availability of adult drug treatment courts, family treatment courts, and veteran treatment courts across Maine.

Opposed & Defeated (8)

- LD 219: An Act to Limit Hypodermic Apparatus Exchange Programs to a One-for-one Exchange (Rep. Mastraccio-D)
 - Would have required all certified syringe service programs (SSPs) to operate using a one-for-one syringe exchange model, which goes against evidence-based best practices.
 - LD 1024: An Act to Expand the List of Crimes That Do Not Qualify for Immunity Under Maine's Good Samaritan Laws Concerning Drug-related Medical Assistance (Sen. Haggan-R)
 - Sought to roll back the protections of the expanded Good Samaritan Law passed during the 130th Legislative Session. If it had passed, less people would feel safe calling 9-1-1, and more Mainers would die from preventable overdose deaths.
- LD 717: An Act to Amend the Maine Criminal Code Governing Restitution to Include the Costs of All Analyses of Suspected Illegal Drugs (Rep. Bishop-R)
 - Aimed to remove a rule in Maine's Criminal Code that indicated drug analysis costs could only be included in restitution during sentencing if the defendant was motivated by profit. People with SUD facing low level drug crimes need treatment, not additional fines.
 - LD 771: An Act to Include Possession of Compounds, Mixtures or Substances Containing a Detectable Amount of Certain Scheduled Drugs to Prove the Offense of Unlawful Trafficking of Scheduled Drugs (Sen. Baldacci-D)
 - Sought to make it easier to prosecute individuals with SUD for drug trafficking based on the amount of drugs in their possession - rather than actual intent to distribute.
- LD 1263: An Act Regarding Penalties for Fentanyl Trafficking When That Trafficking Results in an Overdose Causing Serious Bodily Injury of a Person (Rep. Poirier-R)
 - Attempted to to create a new Class A Crime when trafficking fentanyl results in serious bodily injury (already a Class B Crime in Maine). Increased punishment is not the answer.
- LD 1288: An Act to Amend Certain Provisions of Maine's Drug Laws Regarding Heroin, Fentanyl and Cocaine (Sen. Haggan-R)
 - Sought to decrease the threshold amounts needed to charge someone with unlawful trafficking and unlawful furnishing of heroin and fentanyl powder. Had this bill been enacted, more people using drugs for personal use would face drug trafficking charges.

POSITIONS KEY: TOP PRIORITY= (!)



FOR= (V)





Carried Over



- LD 755: An Act to Prevent Opioid Overdose Deaths by Allowing Municipalities to Approve the Establishment of Overdose Prevention Centers (Sen. Bennett-R)
 - Authorizes municipalities to approve overdose prevention centers (OPCs) at which clients may receive health screening, disease prevention and recovery support services and may self-administer previously obtained controlled substances on the premises. The bill also provides immunity from arrest, prosecution, revocation proceedings or termination proceedings for persons using, employed by or otherwise associated with an OPC when acting in accordance with the bill.



- LD 1646: An Act to Amend Maine's Good Samaritan Laws Regarding Suspected Drugrelated Overdoses (Sen. Talbot Ross - D)
 - Clarifies what triggers the Good Samaritan Law immunity provisions when 9-1-1 is called at the scene of a drug-related overdose. Responds to a recent Maine Supreme Court decision to ensure that the original intent of the law is upheld.



- LD 1922: An Act to Support Workforce Development for Families That Were Involved in Child Protective Activities by Requiring the Sealing of Certain Records (Rep. Meyer-D)
 - · Requires DHHS to seal certain child protection records, subject to certain exceptions. Sealing means the records are rendered inaccessible to the public but are retained by the department for internal use, such as compliance with legal obligations, future child protective investigations or other legitimate governmental purposes.



- LD 604: An Act to Ensure Access to Concurrent Methadone Treatment and Intensive **Outpatient Programs (Rep. Supica-D)**
 - This bill expands prohibits DHHS from restricting coverage for individuals enrolled in MaineCare from receiving methadone treatment and enrolling in an intensive outpatient program concurrently.



- LD 1911:An Act to Automatically Seal Criminal History Record Information for Certain **Crimes (Sen. Talbot Ross-D)**
 - Seeks to establish an automatic process for sealing criminal records for eligible crimes. This bill balances public safety with creating a pathway to remove some of the barriers that many individuals with criminal records face.





