

The Maine Women’s Lobby—Your Voice in the State House
Legislative Report
127th Legislature, First Regular Session

We lobbied on a number of bills this legislative session. Some of those “went under the hammer” without a roll call, and others were the subject of lengthy debate with multiple votes making it difficult to present that information through a roll call. Visit www.mainewomen.org to find the outcomes of any bills not included here that we previously wrote about in our spring newsletter or our monthly e-newsletter. While you are online, make sure you get our email action alerts so that you know when there are opportunities to let your voice be heard during future legislative sessions.

Note: In the roll calls presented here, you will notice that the House and Senate voted on different reports or on an amendment. We have indicated whether or not we supported the overall bill as well as whether or not we supported the specific report or amendment the body voted on in the roll call presented. If you have any questions about this, please feel free to contact us at info@mainewomen.org or 207.622.0851.

Health Care

LD 83, An Act To Strengthen the Consent Laws for Abortions Performed on Minors and Incapacitated Persons

Sponsor: Senator Paul Davis

This bill sought to repeal Maine’s long-standing successful Adult Involvement Law, which provides an avenue for young women to seek abortions when they feel they cannot involve a parent or close family member in their decision to seek an abortion. While Maine’s current law requires thorough options counseling from certain qualified adults if a minor seeking an abortion cannot involve her family, this bill would have eliminated the possibility of obtaining an abortion without familial consent, unless the young woman sought a court order.

MWL position: *Opposed* **Final Status:** *Defeated*

House roll call #288, *Accept Majority Ought Not to Pass Report* (MWL supported); Prevails

Senate roll call #278, *Accept Minority Ought to Pass-A Report* (MWL opposed); Fails

LD 1312, An Act To License Outpatient Surgical Abortion Facilities

Sponsor: Representative Deborah Sanderson

LD 1312 was a Targeted Regulation of Abortion Provider (“TRAP”) bill, attempting to newly grant state-level authority to regulate Maine’s three public abortion care providers, while leaving out hospitals and private facilities that provide abortions. Other states with laws that give as broad authority to the state as this bill proposed to do have used their laws to impose burdensome and unnecessary regulations with the goal of closing health centers. The physicians who practice at Maine’s three public abortion providers are all regulated through the state licensing board—like all other medical providers in the state.

MWL position: *Opposed* **Final Status:** *Defeated*

House roll call #105, *Accept Majority Ought Not to Pass Report* (MWL supported); Prevails

Senate roll call #217, *Accept Minority Ought to Pass Report* (MWL opposed); Fails

LD 319, *An Act To Strengthen the Economic Stability of Qualified Maine Citizens by Expanding Coverage of Reproductive Health Care and Family Services*

Sponsor: Representative Joyce “Jay” McCreight

LD 319 expands access to preventative health care services, including contraception, cancer screenings, STI testing, and Pap tests, for women and men whose incomes are up to 209% of the federal poverty level. Previously, state insurance covered the costs of pregnancy for women in this income bracket, but did not cover health care to prevent pregnancy. The passage of this bill means that the state will save money from preventing unintended pregnancies and give low-income women and men access to critical reproductive health care.

MWL position: *Supported* **Final Status:** *Became law without the Governor’s signature*

House roll call #262, *Accept Report ‘A’ Ought to Pass as Amended* (MWL supported); Prevails

Senate roll call #275, *Accept Report ‘C’ Ought Not to Pass* (MWL opposed); Fails

Economic Security

LD 1375, *An Act To Increase Accountability in Maine’s Welfare Programs*

Sponsor: Senate President Michael Thibodeau

LD 1375 included a variety of limitations on the use of public assistance benefits, including requiring applicants for Temporary Aid for Needy Families (TANF) to demonstrate evidence of having applied for work before being allowed to apply. It also removed the possibility of being exempted from having to participate in the work search requirements for the program—no longer taking into consideration lack of child care or transportation, which are two of the biggest challenges for families in poverty that often keep parents from being able to maintain gainful employment. The bill also sought to limit how much of the benefit can be withdrawn as cash, which would leave families using their benefits for child care, rent, transportation, or utilities that do not accept EBT cards without the ability to use the benefits for these necessities.

MWL position: *Opposed* **Final Status:** *Defeated*

House roll call #364, *Accept Majority Ought Not to Pass Report* (MWL supported); Prevails

Senate roll call #303, *Accept Minority Ought to Pass-A Report* (MWL opposed); Prevails

LD 369, *An Act To Align Municipal General Assistance Programs with the Immigration Status Policies of the Department of Health and Human Services*

Sponsor: Senator Eric Brakey

As originally written, LD 369 was part of the ongoing attempts to refuse assistance to certain immigrants, including those seeking asylum. The bill was amended to make it possible for asylum seekers and certain other immigrants to receive General Assistance (GA) from municipalities because many state-level avenues have already been closed to this very vulnerable population. Asylum seekers come to our country fleeing persecution. Federal law requires a lengthy legal process before asylum seekers are able to work. The amended version of this bill permits asylum seekers and certain other immigrants to continue to be eligible for GA with a time limit of 24 months.

MWL position: *Supported the amended bill* **Final Status:** *Became law without the Governor’s signature*

House roll call #334, *Accept Majority Ought to Pass as Amended Report* (MWL supported); Prevails

Senate roll call #305, *Adopt SAS-292 to CAS-271* (MWL supported); Prevails

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MWL 2015 Senate Roll Calls

	LD 83	LD 319	LD 369	LD 1312	LD 1375
MWL Position:	Oppose	Support	Support	Oppose	Oppose
Justin Alford (D-Dist. 27) <i>Cumberland</i>	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
Linda Baker (R-Dist. 23) <i>Sagadahoc/Lincoln</i>	✗	✗	✓	✓	✗
Eric Brakey (R-Dist. 20) <i>Androscoggin/Cumberland</i>	✗	✗	✗	✗	✗
Catherine Breen (D-Dist. 25) <i>Cumberland</i>	✓	✓	✓	✓	✗
David Burns (R-Dist. 6) <i>Washington/Hancock</i>	✗	✗	✗	✗	✗
Ronald F. Collins (R-Dist. 34) <i>York</i>	✗	✗	✓	✗	✗
Andre E. Cushing, III (R-Dist. 10) <i>Penobscot</i>	✗	✗	✓	✗	✗
Scott W. Cyrway (R-Dist. 16) <i>Kennebec/Somerset</i>	✗	✗	✗	✗	✗
Paul T. Davis, Sr. (R-Dist. 4) <i>Piscataquis/Penobscot/Somerset</i>	✗	✗	✓	✗	✗
William G. Diamond (D-Dist. 26) <i>Cumberland</i>	✓	✓	✓	✓	✗
James F. Dill (D-Dist. 5) <i>Penobscot</i>	✓	✓	✓	✓	✗
David E. Dutremble (D-Dist. 32) <i>York</i>	✓	✓	✓	✓	✗
Peter Edgecomb (R-Dist. 1) <i>Aroostook</i>	✗	✗	✗	✗	✗
Stan Gerzofsky (D-Dist. 24) <i>Cumberland</i>	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
Geoffrey M. Gratwick (D-Dist. 9) <i>Penobscot</i>	✓	✓	✓	✓	✗
James Hamper (R-Dist. 19) <i>Oxford/Cumberland</i>	✗	✗	✓	✗	✗
Anne M. Haskell (D-Dist. 28) <i>Cumberland</i>	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
Dawn Hill (D-Dist. 35) <i>York</i>	✓	✓	✓	✓	✗
Christopher K. Johnson (D-Dist. 13) <i>Lincoln/Knox/Kennebec</i>	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
Roger J. Katz (R-Dist. 15) <i>Kennebec</i>	✓	✓	✓	✓	✗
Brian D. Langley (R-Dist. 7) <i>Hancock</i>	✓	✓	✓	✓	✗
Nathan L. Libby (D-Dist. 21) <i>Androscoggin</i>	✓	✓	✓	✓	✗
Garrett Paul Mason (R-Dist. 22) <i>Androscoggin/Kennebec</i>	✗	✗	✓	✗	✗
Earle L. McCormick (R-Dist. 14) <i>Knox</i>	✗	✗	✓	✗	✗
Rebecca J. Millett (D-Dist. 29) <i>Cumberland</i>	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
David R. Miramant (D-Dist. 12) <i>Knox</i>	✓	✓	✓	✓	✗
John L. Patrick (D-Dist. 14) <i>Oxford/Androscoggin</i>	✓	✓	✓	✓	✗
Kimberley C. Rosen (R-Dist. 8) <i>Hancock/Penobscot</i>	✓	✓	✓	✓	✗
Thomas B. Saviello (R-Dist. 17) <i>Franklin/Kennebec</i>	✗	✓	✓	✓	✗
Michael D. Thibodeau (R-Dist. 11) <i>Waldo</i>	✗	✗	✓	✗	✗
Linda M. Valentino (D-Dist. 31) <i>York</i>	✓	✓	⊗	✓	⊗
Amy F. Volk (R-Dist. 30) <i>Cumberland/York</i>	✗	✗	✓	✗	✗
Rodney L. Whittemore (R-Dist. 3) <i>Somerset/Kennebec</i>	✗	✗	✓	✗	✗
Michael James Willette (R-Dist. 2) <i>Aroostook/Penobscot</i>	✗	✗	✗	✗	✗
David C. Woodsome (R-Dist. 33) <i>Cumberland</i>	✗	✗	✓	✓	✗
✓ = Agreed	18	19	29	21	5
✗ = Disagreed	17	16	5	14	29
⊗ = Absent/Excused	0	0	1	0	1
Total	35	35	35	35	35

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MWL 2015 House Roll Calls

MWL Position:	LD 83	LD 319	LD 369	LD 1312	LD 1375
	Oppose	Support	Support	Oppose	Oppose
Robert W. Alley, Sr. (D-Beals)	✓	✓	✓	✓	✗
Susan M.W. Austin (R-Gray)	✗	✗	✗	✗	✗
Christopher W. Babbidge (D-Kennebunk)	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
Dillon Bates (D-Westbrook)	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
Kevin J. Battle (R-South Portland)	✓	✓	✓	✓	✗
Roberta B. Beavers (D-South Berwick)	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
Henry E. M. Beck (D-Waterville)	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
Pinny Beebe-Center (D-Rockland)	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
Bruce A. Bickford (R-Auburn)	⊗	✗	✗	✓	✓
Russell J. Black (R-Wilton)	✗	✗	✗	✗	✗
Lydia Blume (D-York)	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
Heidi E. Brooks (D-Lewiston)	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
Mark E. Bryant (D-Windham)	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
Andrew Russell Buckland (R-Farmington)	✗	✗	✗	✗	✗
Christine S. Burstein (D-Lincolntonville)	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
James J. Campbell, Sr. (I-Newfield)	✓	✓	✗	✓	✓
Richard H. Campbell (R-Orrington)	✗	✗	✗	✗	✗
Paul Chace (R-Durham)	✗	✗	✗	✗	✗
Ralph Chapman (D-Brooksville)	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
Justin M. Chenette (D-Saco)	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
Benjamin M. Chipman (I-Portland)	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
Janice E. Cooper (D-Yarmouth)	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
Patrick W. Corey (R-Windham)	✗	✗	✗	✓	✗
Dale J. Crafts (R-Lisbon)	✗	✗	✗	✗	✗
Matthea E. L. Daughtry (D-Brunswick)	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
James E. Davitt (D-Hampden)	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
Jennier DeChant (D-Bath)	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
Michael G. Devin (D-Newcastle)	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
Kathleen R. J. Dillingham (R-Oxford)	⊗	✗	✗	✗	✗
Mark N. Dion (D-Portland)	✓	⊗	✓	✓	✓
Donna R. Doore (D-Augusta)	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
Robert S. Duchesne (D-Hudson)	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
Larry C. Dunphy (R-Embden)	✗	✗	✗	✗	✗
Michelle Dunphy (D-Old Town)	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
Anthony J. Edgecomb (R-Fort Fairfield)	✗	✗	✗	✗	✗
Ellie Espling (R-New Gloucester)	✗	✗	✓	✗	✗
Jeffrey Evangelos (U-Friendship)	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
Mark W. Eves (D-North Berwick)	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
Richard R. Farnsworth (D-Portland)	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
Bradlee Thomas Farrin (R-Norridgewock)	✗	✗	✗	✗	⊗
Ryan M. Fecteau (D-Biddeford)	✓	⊗	✓	✓	✓
Robert A. Foley (R-Wells)	✗	✗	✗	✗	✗
Lori A. Fowle (D-Vassalboro)	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
Kenneth Wade Fredette (R-Newport)	✗	✗	✗	⊗	✗
Aaron M. Frey (D-Bangor)	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
Drew M. Gattine (D-Westbrook)	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
Karen A. Gerrish (R-Lebanon)	✗	✗	✗	✗	✗
Sara Gideon (D-Freeport)	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
Paul E. Gilbert (D-Jay)	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
James S. Gillway (R-Searsport)	✗	✗	✗	✗	✗
Phyllis A. Ginzler (R-Bridgton)	✗	✗	✗	✗	✗
Jared F. Golden (D-Lewiston)	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
Adam A. Goode (D-Bangor)	✓	✓	⊗	✓	⊗
Gay M. Grant (D-Gardiner)	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
Randall Adam Greenwood (R-Wales)	✗	✗	✗	✗	✗

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	Oppose	Support	Support	Oppose	Oppose
Martin J. Grohman (D-Biddeford)	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
Stacey K. Guerin (R-Glenburn)	✗	✗	✗	✗	✗
Scott M. Hamann (D-South Portland)	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
Sheldon Mark Hanington (R-Lincoln)	✗	✗	✗	✗	✗
Jeffery P. Hanley (R-Pittston)	✗	✗	✗	✗	✗
Denise Patricia Harlow (D-Portland)	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
Stephanie Hawke (R-Boothbay Harbor)	⊗	✗	✗	✗	✗
Frances M. Head (R-Bethel)	✗	✗	✗	✗	✗
Erin D. Herbig (D-Belfast)	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
Lloyd C. Herrick (R-Paris)	⊗	✗	✗	✗	✗
Craig V. Hickman (D-Winthrop)	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
Norman E. Higgins (R-Dover-Foxcroft)	✗	✗	⊗	✗	✗
Gary L. Hilliard (R-Belgrade)	✗	✗	✗	✗	✗
Brian D. Hobart (R-Bowdoinham)	✓	✗	✗	✓	✗
Barry J. Hobbins (D-Saco)	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
George W. Hogan (D-Old Orchard Beach)	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
Brian L. Hubbell (D-Bar Harbor)	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
Patricia Hymanson (D-York)	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
Erik C. Jorgensen (D-Portland)	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
Jonathan L. Kinney (R-Limington)	✗	✗	✗	✗	✗
MaryAnne Kinney (R-Knox)	✗	✗	✗	✗	✗
Victoria P. Kornfield (D-Bangor)	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
Chuck Kruger (D-Thomaston)	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
Walter A. Kumiega (D-Deer Isle)	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
Michael A. Lajoie (D-Lewiston)	✗	✓	✓	✓	✓
Lawrence E. Lockman (R-Amherst)	✗	✗	✗	✗	✗
Ricky D. Long (R-Sherman)	✗	✗	✗	✗	✗
Thomas R. W. Longstaff (D-Waterville)	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
Louis J. Luchini (D-Ellsworth)	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
Peter A. Lyford (R-Eddington)	✗	✗	✗	✗	✗
Joyce A. Maker (R-Calais)	✗	✗	✗	✗	✗
Richard S. Malaby (R-Hancock)	✗	✗	⊗	✗	⊗
Donald G. Marean (R-Hollis)	⊗	⊗	✗	✗	✗
John L. Martin (D-Eagle Lake)	✗	✓	✓	✗	✓
Roland Danny Martin (D-Sinclair)	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
Anne-Marie Mastraccio (D-Sanford)	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
Jeff M. McCabe (D-Skowhegan)	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
Michael D. McClellan (R-Raymond)	✗	✗	✗	✗	✗
Joyce McCreight (D-Harpswell)	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
Carol A. McElwee (R-Caribou)	✗	✗	✗	✗	✗
Andrew J. McLean (D-Gorham)	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
Gina M. Melaragno (D-Auburn)	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
Kimberly J. Monaghan (D-Cape Elizabeth)	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
Matthew Moonen (D-Portland)	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
Terry K. Morrison (D-South Portland)	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
Catherine M. Nadeau (D-Winslow)	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
William F. Noon (D-Sanford)	✓	✓	⊗	✓	⊗
Robert W. Nutting (R-Oakland)	✗	✗	✗	✗	✗
Beth A. O'Connor (R-Berwick)	✗	✗	✗	✗	✗
Wayne R. Parry (R-Arundel)	✗	✗	✗	✗	✗
Matthew J. Peterson (D-Rumford)	✗	✓	✓	✓	✗
John Joseph Picchiotti (R-Fairfield)	⊗	✗	✗	✗	✗
Richard A. Pickett (R-Dixfield)	✗	✗	✗	✗	✗
Jeffrey K. Pierce (R-Dresden)	✗	✗	✗	✗	✗
Teresa S. Pierce (D-Falmouth)	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓

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	Oppose	Support	Support	Oppose	Oppose
Matthew G. Pouliot (R-Augusta)	x	x	x	x	x
Christine B. Powers (D-Naples)	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
Dwayne W. Prescott (R-Waterboro)	x	x	x	x	x
Roger E. Reed (R-Carmel)	x	x	x	x	x
Margaret R. Rotundo (D-Lewiston)	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
Diane M. Russell (D-Portland)	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
Dean Rykerson (D-Kittery)	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
Linda F. Sanborn (D-Gorham)	✓	✓	⊗	✓	⊗
Deborah J. Sanderson (R-Chelsea)	x	x	x	x	x
Robert J. Saucier (D-Presque Isle)	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
David P. Sawicki (R-Auburn)	x	x	x	x	x
John C. Schneck (D-Bangor)	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
Stedman H. Seavey (R-Kennebunkport)	x	x	x	x	x
Michael A. Shaw (D-Standish)	⊗	✓	✓	✓	x
Roger L. Sherman (R-Hodgdon)	x	x	x	x	x
Stanley Byron Short, Jr. (U-Pittsfield)	x	✓	✓	✓	x
Heather W. Sirocki (R-Scarborough)	x	x	x	x	x
Thomas H. Skolfield (R-Weld)	x	⊗	x	x	x
Stephen S. Stanley (D-Medway)	x	x	✓	x	✓
Paul A. Stearns (R-Guilford)	x	x	x	x	x
Joel R. Stetkis (R-Canaan)	x	x	x	x	x
Peter C. Stuckey (D-Portland)	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
Gary E. Sukeforth (I-Appleton)	x	✓	✓	✓	x
Denise A. Tepler (D-Topsham)	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
Timothy S. Theriault (R-China)	x	x	⊗	x	⊗
Jeffrey L. Timberlake (R-Turner)	x	x	x	x	x
Michael J. Timmons (R-Cumberland)	x	x	⊗	⊗	⊗
Ryan Tipping-Spitz (D-Orono)	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
Ralph L. Tucker (D-Brunswick)	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
William R. Tuell (R-East Machias)	x	x	x	x	x
Beth P. Turner (R-Burlington)	x	x	x	x	x
Karen Vachon (R-Scarborough)	x	x	x	x	x
Arthur C. Verow (D-Brewer)	x	x	✓	x	✓
Nathan J. Wadsworth (R-Hiram)	x	x	x	x	x
Raymond A. Wallace (R-Dexter)	x	x	x	x	x
Karleton S. Ward (R-Dedham)	x	x	x	x	x
Charlotte Warren (D-Hallowell)	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
Joan W. Welsh (D-Rockport)	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
Dustin Michael White (R-Washburn)	x	x	x	x	x
Tom J. Winsor (R-Norway)	x	x	x	x	x
Stephen J. Wood (R-Greene)	x	x	x	x	x
✓ = Agreed	77	80	81	84	76
* = Disagreed	67	67	63	65	68
⊗ = Absent/Excused	7	4	7	2	7
Total	151	151	151	151	151