

# MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES

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STATE OF MAINE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES 119TH LEGISLATURE FIRST REGULAR SESSION

COMMITTEE AMENDMENT "A" to H.P. 326, L.D. 442, "Resolve, to Create a Study Group to Prepare Pharmaceutical Guidelines for Geriatric Residents in Long-term Care Settings"

Amend the resolve by striking out the title and substituting the following:

'Resolve, to Create a Study Group Regarding Pharmaceutical Guidelines for Geriatric Residents in Long-term Care Settings'

Further amend the resolve by striking out all of section 1 and inserting in its place the following:

'Sec. 1. Study group to review and recommend voluntary guidelines for use of pharmaceuticals. Resolved: That the Department of Human Services shall form a study group to review and recommend voluntary guidelines for the use of pharmaceuticals to treat geriatric patients. The study group must include consumers, advocates for consumers, physicians, medical directors, administrators, nurses and consultant pharmacists who practice in long-term care facilities. The purpose of the guidelines is to enhance the ability of health care practitioners to provide appropriate drug therapy in the most cost-effective manner. The study group shall review existing pharmaceutical care guidelines in other states and Canada and strategies for encouraging the use of the guidelines by providers of health care services; and be it further'

Further amend the resolve in section 3 in the first line (page 1, line 33 in L.D.) by striking out the following: "developed" and inserting in its place the following: 'reviewed' and in the 2nd line (page 1, line 34 in L.D.) by striking out the following: "develop" and inserting in its place the following: 'review'

COMMITTEE AMENDMENT

2 Further amend the resolve by inserting at the end before the  
summary the following:

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**FISCAL NOTE**

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The Department of Human Services will incur some minor additional costs to form a study group to review voluntary guidelines for the use of pharmaceuticals to treat geriatric patients and to provide staff assistance to the study group. These costs can be absorbed within the department's existing budgeted resources.'

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**SUMMARY**

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This amendment deletes reference to development of the pharmaceutical guidelines, adds consumers and advocates for consumers to the study group membership, clarifies that they are voluntary guidelines and adds to the duties of the study group review of strategies for encouraging the use of the voluntary guidelines by health care providers. It adds a fiscal note.

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