

MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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Date: 5/2/23

(Filing No. S-40)

MINORITY

HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES

Reproduced and distributed under the direction of the Secretary of the Senate.

STATE OF MAINE

SENATE

132ND LEGISLATURE

FIRST SPECIAL SESSION

COMMITTEE AMENDMENT "A" to S.P. 171, L.D. 389, "Resolve, to Increase Transparency and Evaluate Emergency Response Through a COVID-19 Review Commission"

Amend the resolve in the emergency preamble by striking out all of the 2nd paragraph (page 1, lines 3 to 11 in L.D.) and inserting the following:

'Whereas, this resolve establishes the COVID-19 Review Commission to study the State's response to the COVID-19 emergency; and'

Amend the resolve by striking out all of section 5 and inserting the following:

'Sec. 5. Duties. Resolved: That the commission shall:

1. Study the State's response to coronavirus disease 2019, referred to in this resolve as "COVID-19," and state laws, rules and policies governing that response in the State;

2. Review overall primary and secondary health, education and economic effects on communities, including racial and ethnic minority populations, of COVID-19 infections and deaths and the response of the State to mitigate those effects;

3. Review state, county and municipal government preparedness and response to the declared COVID-19 emergency;

4. Review state and local disease surveillance and detection capabilities; and

5. Study any other matters related to the COVID-19 response as required by the commission.'

Amend the resolve in section 6 in the 2nd line (page 2, line 32 in L.D.) by inserting after the following: "commission" the following: ', except that Legislative Council staff support is not authorized when the Legislature is in regular or special session'

Amend the resolve by relettering or renumbering any nonconsecutive Part letter or section number to read consecutively.

COMMITTEE AMENDMENT

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SUMMARY

This amendment clarifies the duties of the COVID-19 Review Commission. It clarifies that Legislative Council staff support is not authorized when the Legislature is in regular or special session.

FISCAL NOTE REQUIRED

(See attached)



132nd MAINE LEGISLATURE

LD 389

LR 704(02)

Resolve, to Increase Transparency and Evaluate Emergency Response Through a COVID-19 Review Commission

Fiscal Note for Bill as Amended by Committee Amendment "A" (S-40)
Committee: Health and Human Services
Fiscal Note Required: Yes

Fiscal Note

Legislative Cost/Study

Legislative Cost/Study

The general operating expenses of this study are projected to be \$9,350 in fiscal year 2025-26. The Legislature's proposed budget for the 2026-2027 biennium includes \$22,196 in each of fiscal years 2025-26 and 2026-27 for the costs of legislative studies, as well as \$8,265 in projected balances from fiscal year 2024-25 and \$33,073 of balances carried over from prior years for this purpose. Whether these amounts are sufficient to fund all studies will depend on the number of studies authorized by the Legislative Council and the Legislature. The additional costs of providing staffing assistance to the study during the interim can be absorbed utilizing existing budgeted staff resources.

Fiscal Detail and Notes

Any additional costs to the Department of Health and Human Services to serve on the COVID-19 Review Commission are expected to be minor and can be absorbed within existing budgeted resources. Any additional costs to the Department of Defense, Veterans and Emergency Management associated with assisting the Commission are also expected to be minor and can be absorbed within existing budgeted resources.