

MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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132nd MAINE LEGISLATURE

FIRST REGULAR SESSION-2025

Legislative Document

No. 1028

S.P. 446

In Senate, March 13, 2025

**Resolve, to Establish the Task Force to Study Equitable Access to
Maternal Health Care and Birthing Facilities**

Received by the Secretary of the Senate on March 12, 2025. Referred to the Committee on Health and Human Services pursuant to Joint Rule 308.2 and ordered printed.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'D M Grant'.

DAREK M. GRANT
Secretary of the Senate

Presented by Senator TALBOT ROSS of Cumberland.
Cosponsored by Representative BOYER of Cape Elizabeth and
Senators: BRENNER of Cumberland, CARNEY of Cumberland, INGWERSEN of York,
MOORE of Washington, Representatives: ARATA of New Gloucester, DAIGLE of Fort Kent,
JAVNER of Chester, ZAGER of Portland.

1 **Sec. 1. Task force established. Resolved:** That the Task Force to Study Equitable
2 Access to Maternal Health Care and Birthing Facilities, referred to in this resolve as "the
3 task force," is established.

4 **Sec. 2. Task force membership. Resolved:** That, notwithstanding Joint Rule
5 353, the task force consists of 13 members as follows:

6 1. Two members of the Senate, appointed by the President of the Senate, including
7 one member from each of the 2 parties holding the largest number of seats in the
8 Legislature;

9 2. Two members of the House of Representatives, appointed by the Speaker of the
10 House, including one member from each of the 2 parties holding the largest number of seats
11 in the Legislature;

12 3. Four members appointed by the President of the Senate as follows:

13 A. One member with expertise in obstetrics and gynecology;

14 B. One member with expertise in certified nurse midwifery;

15 C. One member representing the State's perinatal quality of care system; and

16 D. One member representing the division governing maternal and child health services
17 within the Department of Health and Human Services, Maine Center for Disease
18 Control and Prevention;

19 4. Four members appointed by the Speaker of the House as follows:

20 A. One member with expertise in rural health care delivery;

21 B. One member with expertise in independent birthing centers;

22 C. One member representing an association of hospitals; and

23 D. One member representing a federally qualified health center in the State; and

24 5. The Commissioner of Health and Human Services or the commissioner's designee.

25 In making appointments under this section, the appointing authorities shall give
26 consideration to the unique needs of rural populations.

27 The chairs under section 3 may appoint as nonvoting members of the task force persons
28 with expertise in obstetrics and perinatal health.

29 **Sec. 3. Chairs. Resolved:** That the first-named Senate member is the Senate chair
30 and the first-named House of Representatives member is the House chair of the task force.

31 **Sec. 4. Appointments; convening of task force. Resolved:** That all
32 appointments must be made no later than 30 days following the effective date of this
33 resolve. The appointing authorities shall notify the Executive Director of the Legislative
34 Council once all appointments have been completed. After appointment of all members,
35 the chairs shall call and convene the first meeting of the task force. If 30 days or more after
36 the effective date of this resolve a majority of but not all appointments have been made, the
37 chairs may request authority and the Legislative Council may grant authority for the task
38 force to meet and conduct its business.

