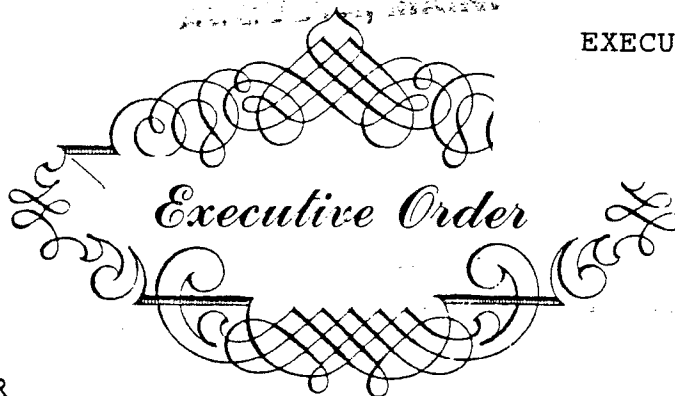


MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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OFFICE OF
THE GOVERNOR

NO. 9FY 84/85
DATE May 2, 1985

MAINE TASK FORCE TO STUDY HOMELESSNESS

WHEREAS, there has been an increasing national recognition of the homeless in America; and

WHEREAS, Maine is also experiencing greater numbers of homeless in need of assistance and in obtaining shelter; and

WHEREAS, homelessness results from various causes, including the lack of availability of affordable housing, lack of employment opportunities, the deinstitutionalization of the chronically mentally ill, violence in the home, drug and alcohol related problems; and

WHEREAS, there are many in Maine who are at risk of being homeless due to unemployment, lack of available support services, and due to their inability to afford housing; and

WHEREAS, it is in the best interest of Maine to provide for the general welfare of the people of the State; and

WHEREAS, it is appropriate for State government to define its role in meeting the needs of the homeless;

NOW, THEREFORE, I, JOSEPH E. BRENNAN, GOVERNOR, do hereby establish a Maine Task Force on Homelessness.

A. Responsibilities

Responsibilities of the Task Force shall be the following:

1. To study the causes of homelessness in the State;
2. To determine the nature of and extent of the problem of homelessness in Maine; and
3. To define the role of State government in providing housing and social and support services for the homeless and those at risk of being homeless;

MAY 3 1985

B. Name and Membership

The name of the Task Force shall be the Maine Task Force to Study Homelessness and shall consist of eight members.

The Task Force shall be composed of the following:

The Director of the Maine State Housing Authority or designee.
The Commissioner of the Department of Human Services or designee.
The Commissioner of the Department of Mental Health and Mental Retardation or designee.
The Director of the Division of Community Services or designee.
Three public members.

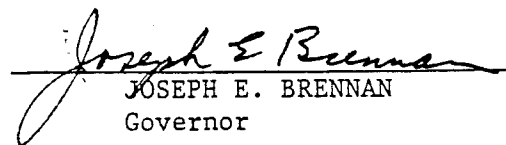
The Director of the Maine State Housing Authority shall serve as Chair.

The Task Force is directed to consult with providers of community-based mental health services, drug or alcohol related services, employment services, and municipal, as well as other appropriate social services agencies.

C. Reports and Recommendations

The Maine Task Force to Study Homelessness shall report to the Governor its preliminary findings by January 1, 1986.

The Task Force shall make recommendations to the Governor in a final report by July 1, 1986.


JOSEPH E. BRENNAN
Governor