

MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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STATE OF MAINE
SENATE
106TH LEGISLATURE

COMMITTEE AMENDMENT "A " to S.P. 512, L.D. 1599, Bill, "AN ACT to Reorganize the Departments of Health and Welfare and Mental Health and Corrections."

Amend said Bill in section 2 by striking out in that part designated "§1." the first paragraph (same in L.D.) and inserting in place thereof the following:

'There is created and established the Department of Human Services, hereinafter in this Title and Title 34 called the "department" to consist of the previous Department of Health and Welfare, Department of Mental Health and Corrections, the Committee on Children and Youth, the Governor's Advisory Council on the Status of Women, the Committee on Aging and the Maine Commission on Drug Abuse. The department shall be under the control and supervision of the Commissioner of Human Services, hereinafter in this Title and Title 34 called the "commissioner," who shall be appointed by the Governor with the advice and consent of the Council, for a term coterminous with the Governor, subject to removal for cause by the Governor and Council. He shall employ such bureau and division heads, assistants and employees, subject to the personnel law, except as otherwise specifically provided, as may be necessary to carry out the work of the department. They shall have such duties and responsibilities as are assigned to them by the commissioner. The commissioner shall designate some member of his department to act in the case of his absence or disability and in the case of vacancy in the office of commissioner, that person shall

(Filing No. S-166)

act as commissioner until a new commissioner is appointed, and in all cases, he shall have the same powers and duties as provided by law for the commissioner.'

Further amend said Bill by inserting after section 10 and before the Statement of Fact a new section 11 to read as follows:

'Sec. 11. Commissioner's report to State Government Committee.

The Commissioner of the Department of Human Services shall report to the Joint Standing Committee on State Government, or its successor, of the 107th Legislature, as follows:

1. He shall present a plan of organization of the new Department of Human Services showing how he has or proposes to reorganize the department;

2. He shall show by a detailed statement the number of new personnel positions which have been created or the number reduced or, if they have been reallocated, the nature and detail of the reallocation;

3. He shall show any costs saving effectuated by the reorganization or in the case there are cost increases, the amount and detail of those increases;

4. He shall prepare a statement showing how the reorganization has promoted efficiency in the department and contributed to the better provision of services to citizens of the State of Maine; and

5. He shall make any recommendations for further legislative action as he deems necessary.

His report shall be presented to the committee in writing and he shall meet with the committee on their call at such times as they may deem necessary.'

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Statement of Fact

This amendment removes the position of deputy commissioner and provides that the Commissioner of the Department of Human Services shall report to the Joint Standing Committee on State Government.

Reported by the Majority of the Committee on State Government.

Reproduced and distributed pursuant to Senate Rule 11 A.

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