

# MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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L.D. 824

(Filing No. H-341 )

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STATE OF MAINE  
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES  
112TH LEGISLATURE  
FIRST REGULAR SESSION

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COMMITTEE AMENDMENT "A" to H.P. 552, L.D. 824,  
Bill, "AN ACT Concerning Access to Medical Care for  
Persons without Adequate Health Insurance."

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Amend the bill by striking out everything after  
the enacting clause and inserting in its place the  
following:

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'Sec. 1. Findings. The Legislature finds that  
access to medical care is limited or unavailable to  
many citizens of the State, whose income, resources  
or health insurance is insufficient to meet the cost  
of necessary medical services and who are ineligible  
for federally-assisted medical care services. The  
Legislature recognizes that inadequate health cover-  
age discourages the prevention of serious medical  
conditions, creates severe hardship and suffering for  
the individual in need of care and leads to increased  
use of costly tertiary care, particularly in-patient  
hospital care.

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Sec. 2. Study on access to medical care. The  
Human Services Development Institute of the Center  
for Research and Advanced Study at the University of  
Southern Maine is directed to conduct a study on the  
extent to which Maine citizens are without adequate  
medical care because of their lack of income and re-  
sources and to report its findings, including any  
necessary legislation, to the Joint Standing Commit-  
tee on Appropriations and Financial Affairs and the  
Joint Standing Committee on Human Resources by March  
1, 1986.

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The Department of Human Services and the Bureau  
of Insurance shall cooperate with the Human Services  
Development Institute of the Center for Research and  
Advanced Study by providing access to records, rules,

COMMITTEE AMENDMENT "A" to H.P. 552, L.D. 824

1 policies and data, except for those items which they  
2 are legally obligated to keep confidential.

3 The study shall be confined to fact-finding, data  
4 analysis and the presentation of policy alternatives  
5 to address those needs identified by the study.  
6 Based on the report, the Joint Standing Committee on  
7 Appropriations and Financial Affairs and the Joint  
8 Standing Committee on Human Resources shall make rec-  
9 ommendations.

10 The purpose of the study shall be to compile and  
11 analyze relevant information in the following areas:

12 1. The extent to which citizens of the State  
13 lack adequate health insurance to cover the cost of  
14 medically necessary care;

15 2. The extent to which citizens lacking adequate  
16 insurance are without income and resources to pay for  
17 this care themselves;

18 3. The nature and extent of health problems  
19 among the uninsured and underinsured populations;

20 4. The extent to which the uninsured and  
21 underinsured are medically disadvantaged by their  
22 lack of income, resources or adequate health insur-  
23 ance; and

24 5. Policy alternatives to address problems of  
25 inadequate access to health care as determined  
26 through this study.

27 The Joint Standing Committee on Appropriations  
28 and the Joint Standing Committee on Human Resources  
29 shall:

30 1. Conduct general oversight of the study;

31 2. Conduct a public hearing on the study;

