

# MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

The following document is provided by the  
**LAW AND LEGISLATIVE DIGITAL LIBRARY**  
at the Maine State Law and Legislative Reference Library  
<http://legislature.maine.gov/lawlib>



Reproduced from scanned originals with text recognition applied  
(searchable text may contain some errors and/or omissions)

1 (EMERGENCY)  
2 FIRST REGULAR SESSION  
3

---

4 ONE HUNDRED AND TWELFTH LEGISLATURE  
5

---

6 Legislative Document

No. 1337

7  
8 H.P. 931

House of Representatives, April 19, 1985

9 Reported by Representative Nelson from the Commission to Examine the  
10 Availability, Quality and Delivery of Services Provided to Children with  
11 Special Needs pursuant to Resolve 1983, Chapter 47, as amended by Resolve  
1983, Chapter 86 and printed pursuant to Joint Rule 18.

EDWIN H. PERT, Clerk

12  
13 STATE OF MAINE  
14

---

15 IN THE YEAR OF OUR LORD  
16 NINETEEN HUNDRED AND EIGHTY-FIVE  
17

---

18 Resolve, Relating to the Development of an  
19 Interagency Plan to Address the  
20 Identified Gaps in Mental Health  
21 Services for Children and Families.  
22

---

23 Emergency preamble. Whereas, Acts and resolves  
24 of the Legislature do not become effective until 90  
25 days after adjournment unless enacted as emergencies;  
26 and

27 Whereas, the availability of mental health sup-  
28 port and placement resources is inadequate to meet  
29 the current needs of Maine children and families re-  
30 quiring these services; and

31 Whereas, the development of additional placement  
32 resources is expected to become a critical issue over  
33 the next 2 years; and

34 Whereas, information was presented to the Commis-  
35 sion to Examine the Availability, Quality and Deliv-

1 ery of Services Provided to Children with Special  
2 Needs regarding gaps that have been identified in  
3 mental health services for children and families; and

4 Whereas, in the judgment of the Legislature,  
5 these facts create an emergency within the meaning of  
6 the Constitution of Maine and require the following  
7 legislation as immediately necessary for the preser-  
8 vation of the public peace, health and safety; now,  
9 therefore, be it

10 Identification of gaps. Resolved: That the De-  
11 partment of Corrections, the Department of Education-  
12 al and Cultural Services, the Department of Human  
13 Services and the Department of Mental Health and Men-  
14 tal Retardation identify gaps in mental health ser-  
15 vices for their respective clients; and be it further

16 Interagency plan. Resolved: That the Department  
17 of Mental Health and Mental Retardation shall take  
18 lead responsibility in an interagency effort to de-  
19 velop a plan to address the gaps in mental health  
20 services identified by the 4 departments; and be it  
21 further

22 Role of Augusta Mental Health Insti-  
23 tute. Resolved: That the plan will give particular  
24 consideration to the expanded role that the Augusta  
25 Mental Health Institute will play in a network of  
26 mental health services; and be it further

27 Reports. Resolved: That the Department of Mental  
28 Health and Mental Retardation, in conjunction with  
29 the Department of Corrections, the Department of Edu-  
30 cational and Cultural Services and the Department of  
31 Human Services shall submit a written report to the  
32 Joint Standing Committee on Human Resources and the  
33 Joint Standing Committee on Judiciary no later than  
34 January 15, 1986; and be it further

35 Copies of resolve forwarded. Resolved: That  
36 suitable copies of this resolve be forwarded to the  
37 Joint Standing Committee on Human Resources, the  
38 Joint Standing Committee on Judiciary, the Department  
39 of Corrections, the Department of Educational and  
40 Cultural Services, the Department of Human Services  
41 and the Department of Mental Health and Mental Retar-  
42 dation.



Of the commission's 29 recommendations, 14 required administrative action by the Department of Corrections, Department of Educational and Cultural Services, Department of Human Services and Department of Mental Health and Mental Retardation. An additional 7 recommendations are addressed in legislative resolves.

The purpose of this resolve is to mandate the Department of Corrections, Department of Educational and Cultural Services, Department of Human Services and the Department of Mental Health and Mental Retardation to identify gaps in mental health services for their respective clients and to submit an interagency plan for addressing these gaps to the Joint Standing Committee on Human Resources and the Joint Standing Committee on Judiciary no later than January 15, 1986.

The need for a coordinated plan to address gaps in mental health services for children is reflected in the report of the Commission to Examine the Availability, Quality and Delivery of Services Provided to Children with Special Needs.

2921040185