

# MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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S.  
D. OF R.

1

L.D. 1422

2

(Filing No. S-273 )

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STATE OF MAINE

4

SENATE

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112TH LEGISLATURE

6

FIRST REGULAR SESSION

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COMMITTEE AMENDMENT " A " to S.P. 527, L.D. 1422, "Resolve, Authorizing Continued Study of Information Processing in Social Service Agencies."

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Amend the resolve by striking out all of the title and inserting in its place the following:

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'Resolve, Authorizing Continuing Activities to Streamline Information Processing by Income Supplementation and Social Service Programs.'

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Further amend the resolve by striking out everything after the title and inserting in its place the following:

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

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Whereas, streamlining of information processing was assisted by the establishment of legislative intent setting standards and guidelines for the acquisition and operation of hardware and software in the Resolves of 1983, chapter 41, and such legislative intent should be maintained; and

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Whereas, 4 state agencies have performed a meaningful study of how to further streamline computer-based information processing and have identified practical and reasonable steps that should be implemented in day to day operations and in demonstration projects; and

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Whereas, the Joint Select Committee on Interagency Information Processing has completed its assigned work and submitted a final report recommending fur-

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1 ther activities to streamline that information pro-  
2 cessing; and

3 Whereas, successful streamlining pursuant to leg-  
4 islative intent, implementation of the study recom-  
5 mendations from the 4 state agencies and follow up on  
6 the work of the Joint Select Committee on Interagency  
7 Information Processing require further legislative  
8 and public oversight; and

9 Whereas, in the judgment of the Legislature,  
10 these facts create an emergency within the meaning of  
11 the Constitution of Maine and require the following  
12 legislation as immediately necessary for the preser-  
13 vation of the public peace, health and safety; now,  
14 therefore, be it

15 **Legislative findings. Resolved:** That the Legis-  
16 lature finds that information relating to 10 of thou-  
17 sands of Maine citizens who receive state adminis-  
18 tered income supplementation and social services con-  
19 tinues to be received and maintained in multiple pa-  
20 per and computer-based record systems and that those  
21 Maine citizens should be served in a manner that ap-  
22 propriately protects their right to privacy and con-  
23 fidential processing of client information. The de-  
24 sign and maintenance of client record information  
25 systems requires continuous updating to utilize  
26 fast-changing computer technology practically and  
27 reasonably in a cost-efficient manner.

28 The Legislature further finds that the Department  
29 of Human Services, Department of Mental Health and  
30 Mental Retardation, Division of Community Services  
31 and Central Computer Services are currently pursuing  
32 proposals to design, redesign, acquire, replace and  
33 otherwise improve computer-based hardware and soft-  
34 ware, and that access of clients to service is af-  
35 fected by the coordinated administration of effective  
36 services; and be it further

37 **Main Income Supplementation and Social Services**

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1 Information Systems; established and maintained. Re-  
2 solved: That the Maine Income Supplementation and  
3 Social Service Information Systems, as previously es-  
4 tablished, shall be maintained and shall be imple-  
5 mented as compatible, coordinated subsystems in ac-  
6 cordance with appropriate standards for acquisition  
7 and operation of hardware and software; and be it  
8 further

9 Interdepartmental activities. Resolved: That  
10 the Department of Human Services, Department of Men-  
11 tal Health and Mental Retardation, Division of Commu-  
12 nity Services and Central Computer System shall con-  
13 tinue efforts to further streamline computer-based  
14 information processing, including improved communica-  
15 tion, compatibility and coordination of these sys-  
16 tems. These efforts shall be based on the recommen-  
17 dations of the 4 state agency studies and the report  
18 of the Joint Select Committee on Interagency Informa-  
19 tion Processing prepared pursuant to the Resolves of  
20 1983, chapter 41. The continued efforts shall uti-  
21 lize the interdepartmental method of coordinating  
22 policy and program administration and shall appropri-  
23 ately involve each of the 4 state agencies on matters  
24 relating to the responsibilities of each agency and  
25 shall include the pursuit of how client information  
26 systems and program management records in current use  
27 or proposed to be used may be improved to best estab-  
28 lish, maintain and update, in accordance with a  
29 timetable to be specified, Maine Income Supplemen-  
30 tation and Social Services Information Systems consist-  
31 ing of compatible, coordinated subsystems. The sys-  
32 tems shall be improved for the purpose of:

33 1. Establishing a client-centered information  
34 system that achieves appropriate confidentiality and  
35 privacy of client records and that serves clients in  
36 an effective manner with a minimum of paper work and  
37 procedures;

38 2. Providing for efficient interagency relation-  
39 ships and coordinated program management among pub-

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1       licly and privately operated state-administered pro-  
2       grams;

3               3. Providing for continuing updating of computer  
4 hardware and software within a practical and  
5 cost-conscious framework and timetable that is ade-  
6 quately monitored;

7               4. Providing policy-making data to the Executive  
8 and Legislative Branches; and

9               5. The subject matter includes, but is not lim-  
10 ited to, income supplementation and social services  
11 operated with state-administered funds by the Depart-  
12 ment of Human Services, the Department of Mental  
13 Health and Mental Retardation and the Division of  
14 Community Services. The Bureau of Central Computer  
15 Services shall be the lead agency for carrying out  
16 the intent of this resolve. The interdepartmental  
17 committee of the state agencies shall be the lead  
18 unit of government for carrying out implementation of  
19 the Interagency Report on Streamlining Computer Based  
20 Information Processing by Income Supplementation and  
21 Social Service Programs, dated May, 1985, with the  
22 advice, assistance or cooperation necessary from the  
23 Bureau of Central Computer Services; and be it fur-  
24 ther

25               **Certification. Resolved:** That any state - ad-  
26 ministered funds authorized by the Legislature or  
27 otherwise available to the Department of Human Ser-  
28 vices, the Department of Mental Health and Mental Re-  
29 tardation or the Division of Community Services to be  
30 expended for operation or acquisition of any comput-  
31 er-based information system may only be expended when  
32 the Director of Central Computer Services certifies  
33 the following:

34               1. That the operation of computer-based hardware  
35 or software is in accordance with appropriate stan-  
36 dards and is compatible with current or planned in-  
37 formation systems in terms of communication ability,

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1 including exchange of data, and in terms of coordina-  
2 tion of data elements and program administration in-  
3 formation requirements; or

4 2. That the design, redesign, acquisition, re-  
5 placement or other improvement of computer-based  
6 hardware or software is in accordance with appropri-  
7 ate standards and is:

8 A. Beyond the capacity and response time of ex-  
9 isting hardware;

10 B. Beyond the scope of existing software;

11 C. Shown to be less costly than consolidating  
12 with existing hardware, provided that cost is not  
13 the sole criterion for making a decision; and

14 D. Compatible with current or planned informa-  
15 tion systems in terms of communication ability,  
16 including exchange of data, and in terms of coordi-  
17 nation of data elements and program administra-  
18 tion information requirements; and be it further

19 Report. Resolved: That no later than December  
20 15, 1985, and December 15, 1986, these agencies shall  
21 present to the joint standing committee of the Legis-  
22 lature having jurisdiction over human resources and  
23 to the Executive Branch a unified report on progress  
24 to date. The joint standing committee is authorized  
25 to review activities and reports pursuant to this re-  
26 solve and to report to the Legislature its findings,  
27 recommendations and any legislation deemed necessary.

28 Emergency clause. In view of the emergency cited  
29 in the preamble, this resolve shall take effect when  
30 approved, and be effective through July 1, 1987, un-  
31 less otherwise extended by action of the Legisla-  
32 ture.'

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STATEMENT OF FACT

This amendment replaces the entire resolve. Instead of establishing a joint select committee to study interagency information processing, the amendment:

1. Continues the Maine Income Supplementation and Social Service Information systems;

2. Directs several state agencies and departments to continue efforts at streamlining computer based information processing;

3. Provides that the Director of Central Computer Services must authorize the expenditure for operation or acquisition of computer information systems by certain state agencies to insure compatability and appropriate quality in those systems; and

4. Requires reports to the Governor and the Legislature on the progress in December 1985 and December 1986.

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Reported by Senator Bustin for the Committee on Human Resources. Reproduced and Distributed Pursuant to Senate Rule 12.  
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