

MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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(After Deadline)
SECOND REGULAR SESSION

ONE HUNDRED AND THIRTEENTH LEGISLATURE

Legislative Document

No. 2203

S.P. 847

In Senate, February 5, 1988

Approved for Introduction by a Majority of the Legislative Council pursuant to Joint Rule 27.

Reference to the Committee on Human Resources suggested and ordered printed.

JOY J. O'BRIEN, Secretary of the Senate

Presented by Senator BUSTIN of Kennebec.

Cosponsored by Senator GAUVREAU of Androscoggin, Representative BOUTILIER of Lewiston, Representative PINES of Limestone.

STATE OF MAINE

IN THE YEAR OF OUR LORD
NINETEEN HUNDRED AND EIGHTY-EIGHT

1 **Resolve, Establishing the Commission to Study**
2 **the Status of the Nursing and Health Care**
3 **Professions in Maine.**
4

5 **Commission established. Resolved: That there**
6 **is established the Commission to Study the Status of**
7 **the Nursing and Health Care Professions in Maine; and**
8 **be it further**

9 **Membership; appointment; compensation.**

1 Resolved: That the commission shall consist of 15
2 members, as follows: Two Senators appointed by the
3 President of the Senate; 2 Representatives appointed
4 by the Speaker of the House; 3 representatives of
5 organized labor, one appointed by the President of the
6 Senate, one appointed by the Speaker of the House and
7 one appointed by the Governor; 3 representatives of
8 health care management, one appointed by the President
9 of the Senate, one appointed by the Speaker of the
10 House and one appointed by the Governor; and one
11 member of the general public appointed by the
12 Governor. The Commissioner of Labor or his designee,
13 the Commissioner of Human Services or his designee,
14 the Commissioner of Educational and Cultural Services
15 or his designee and the Chairman of the Maine Health
16 Care Finance Commission or his designee shall serve in
17 an advisory, nonvoting capacity. The commission shall
18 select a chairman from among its members. The
19 Chairman of the Legislative Council shall convene the
20 first meeting, which shall take place no later than 30
21 calendar days after the effective date of this
22 resolve. Legislative members of the commission shall
23 receive per diem compensation and other voting members
24 of the commission shall be compensated for their
25 expenses. The commission may organize subcommittees
26 to investigate specific areas of study and may hold
27 hearings in the course of its study; and be it further

28 Study. Resolved: That the commission shall
29 undertake a complete study of the status of the
30 nursing and health care professions, with particular
31 emphasis on the causes of the current staff shortage
32 and its impact on the delivery of quality health care
33 in the State. In the course of its study, the
34 commission shall:

35 1. Evaluate the difficulties cited by hospitals,
36 nursing homes and other health care institutions, both
37 public and private, to attract, retain and recruit
38 health care professionals;

39 2. Determine how practices in and the changing
40 nature of the health care industry may contribute,
41 either directly or indirectly, to the ability to
42 attract, retain and

1 recruit nursing and health care professionals;

2 3. Assess how the shortage in the health care
3 professions impacts on the delivery of quality health
4 care and its effects on both health care workers and
5 health care consumers;

6 4. Determine the disparate impact of the shortage
7 of nursing and health care professionals on urban,
8 suburban and rural health care facilities and
9 settings; and

10 5. Evaluate the proper role of state regulatory
11 and administrative agencies in addressing the shortage
12 in the nursing and health care professions and the
13 mechanisms in place to attract, retain and reintegrate
14 nursing and health care professionals to ensure
15 delivery of quality health care; and be if further

16 Reports. Resolved: That the commission shall
17 present its findings, together with any recommended
18 legislation, to the First Regular Session of the 114th
19 Legislature by February 1, 1989; and be it further

20 Assistance. Resolved: That staff assistance
21 shall be requested from the Legislative Council; and
22 be it further

23 Appropriation. Resolved: That the following
24 funds are appropriated from the General Fund to carry
25 out the purposes of this resolve.

26 1988-89

27 COMMISSION TO STUDY THE STATUS OF THE
28 NURSING AND HEALTH CARE PROFESSIONS IN
29 MAINE

30 All Other \$8,940

31 Provides funds for 6
32 meetings of the
33 commission, including
34 per diem and expenses
35 for Legislators and

1 expenses for
2 nonlegislative
3 members; one public
4 hearing; and a report.

5 STATEMENT OF FACT

6 The purpose of this resolve is to establish the
7 Commission to Study the Status of the Nursing and
8 Health Care Professions in Maine, with particular
9 emphasis on the current staffing crisis. The
10 commission will be charged with identifying the
11 conditions and practices which contribute to the
12 shortage of health care professionals and assess its
13 impact on the quality of health care delivery in
14 urban, suburban and rural areas of Maine. The
15 commission will submit its report to the First Regular
16 Session of the 114th Legislature, along with
17 recommendations to enhance Maine's ability to recruit,
18 attract and reintegrate nursing and health
19 professionals to the industry.

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