

MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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114th MAINE LEGISLATURE

FIRST REGULAR SESSION - 1989

Legislative Document

No. 990

H.P. 721

House of Representatives, March 30, 1989

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

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Ed Pert".

EDWIN H. PERT, Clerk

Presented by Representative RYDELL of Brunswick.

Cosponsored by Representative O'GARA of Westbrook, Representative BURKE of Vassalboro and Senator BRANNIGAN of Cumberland.

STATE OF MAINE

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

An Act to Ensure Representation on the Committee to Advise the
Department of Human Services on AIDS.



1 Be it enacted by the People of the State of Maine as follows:

3 5 MRSA §19202, 1st ¶, as amended by PL 1987, c. 769, Pt. A,
5 §33, and c. 861, §§7 and 8, is repealed and the following enacted
in its place:

7 The Committee to Advise the Department of Human Services on
8 AIDS, as established by section 12004-I, subsection 42, shall
9 consist of not less than 27 members nor more than 31 members to
10 include representation of: One allopathic physician from nominees
11 submitted by the Maine Medical Association; one osteopathic
12 physician from nominees submitted by the Maine Osteopathic
13 Association; one nursing home administrator from nominees
14 submitted by the Maine Health Care Association; one funeral
15 director from nominees submitted by the Maine Funeral Directors
16 Association; one social worker from nominees submitted by the
17 Maine Chapter of the National Association of Social Workers; one
18 public school administrator from a local school district from
19 nominees submitted by the Maine Superintendents Association; one
20 nurse from nominees submitted by the Maine State Nurses
21 Association; one representative from nominees submitted by the
22 Maine Hospice Council; one teacher from nominees submitted by the
23 Maine Teachers Association; 3 members of the high-risk community
24 one of whom must be a person with hemophilia from nominees
25 submitted by the Maine Hemophilia Treatment Center and the Maine
26 Chapter of New England Hemophilia Association, one representative
27 of the gay community from nominees submitted by the Maine
28 Lesbian/Gay Political Alliance, and one person living with AIDS
29 from nominees submitted by the Maine Persons with AIDS Coalition;
30 one insurance industry representative; one employee of a
31 community mental health center; one dentist from nominees
32 submitted by the Maine Dental Association; one state employee
33 from nominees submitted by the Maine State Employees Association;
34 2 members of the public, including one parent of a school-age
35 child; the Commissioner of Human Services or the commissioner's
36 designee who shall serve during the commissioner's term of
37 office; one psychologist from nominees submitted by the Maine
38 Psychological Association; one state employee from nominees
39 submitted by the American Federation of State, County and
40 Municipal Employees; one member representing hospitals from
41 nominees submitted by the Maine Hospital Association; one member
42 representing public health professionals from nominees submitted
43 by the Maine Public Health Association; one representative of a
44 nonprofit hospital or medical service organization; one
45 substance-abuse counselor; one member of the clergy; and 2
46 Legislators, one member of the House of Representatives appointed
47 by the Speaker of the House and one Senator appointed by the
48 President of the Senate. The members, except for those
49 specifically designated in this paragraph, shall be appointed by
50 the Governor for their competence and experience in connection
51 with these fields.

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STATEMENT OF FACT

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5 This bill formalizes the present representation mix on the
7 AIDS Advisory Committee. There is currently an openly gay
9 representative and a person who is living with AIDS. However,
11 the law as currently written makes no provision for such
13 appointments.

15 Ninety percent of AIDS cases in Maine are in gay or bisexual
17 men, the largest risk group. The other 2 high risk groups,
19 hemophiliacs and intravenous drug users are specifically
mentioned in the bill and given a representative on the
committee. In order to maintain communication between the
Department of Human Services and the high risk groups, it is
essential that the largest group at risk for AIDS and persons
living with AIDS be insured representation on the committee.

19 In addition, this bill resolves a conflict between 3 public
laws by incorporating them into one section.