MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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114th MAINE LEGISLATURE

FIRST REGULAR SESSION - 1989

Legislative Document

No. 1197

S.P. 444

In Senate, April 13, 1989

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 President PRAY of Penobscot, Senator GAUVREAU of Androscoggin and Representative MANNING of Portland.

STATE OF MAINE

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

Resolve, Directing the Department of Mental Health and Mental Retardation to Study Mental Health Needs.



Study of mental health needs. Resolved: That the Department of Mental Health and Mental Retardation shall study the following:

1. The needs of the individuals in the population to be served and the personnel and facilities required to serve those needs, using the individual functional assessment system being developed by the department;

2. Methods to ensure communication and cooperation between hospital inpatient units and community service providers on the treatment and transfer of patients between inpatient units and community service programs. In studying this issue, the department shall, in conjunction with the Department of Human Services and the Maine Health Care Finance Commission, develop appropriate regulations or statutory changes to ensure that state funding and approval mechanisms require this communication and cooperation; and

3. The need for psychiatric inpatient units in local community hospitals, culminating in a plan for the location of community hospital inpatient units across the State. The department shall work with the certificate of need process administered by the Department of Human of Services to provide information that will expedite the certificate of need applications of hospitals that meet the goals of the statewide plan; and be it further

Report. Resolved: That the Department of Mental Health and Mental Retardation submit its findings, recommendations and any accompanying legislation to the Legislature by March 1, 1990.

STATEMENT OF FACT

This resolve requires the Department of Mental Health and Mental Retardation to conduct a systems study of the population to be served; to develop mechanisms to ensure cooperation and community between inpatient units and community service providers; and to conduct a statewide assessment of the need for psychiatric inpatient units in local community hospitals. This study puts into effect 3 of the recommendations made by the Commission to Review Overcrowding at the Augusta Mental Health Institute and the Bangor Mental Health Institute.