

MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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114th MAINE LEGISLATURE

FIRST REGULAR SESSION - 1989

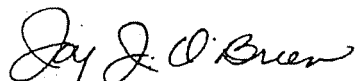
Legislative Document

No. 1442

S.P. 525

In Senate, May 3, 1989

Reference to the Committee on Education suggested and ordered printed.


JOY J. O'BRIEN
Secretary of the Senate

Presented by Senator MATTHEWS of Kennebec.

Cosponsored by Senator ESTES of York, Representative CROWLEY of Stockton Springs and Senator BOST of Penobscot.

STATE OF MAINE

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

Resolve, to Establish a Commission to Study the Provision of Services by Schools for Students Leaving Substance Abuse Treatment Centers .

(EMERGENCY)



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

5 **Whereas,** a 1988 report by the Department of Educational and
Cultural Services demonstrates that many Maine students use or
7 are exposed to drugs and alcohol; and

9 **Whereas,** it is necessary for the Commission to Study the
Provision of Services by Schools for Students Leaving Substance
11 Abuse Treatment Centers to complete its work by December 1, 1989;
and

13 **Whereas,** this may require the commission to begin its work
15 prior to the effective date of nonemergency legislation; and

17 **Whereas,** in the judgment of the Legislature, these facts
create an emergency within the meaning of the Constitution of
19 Maine and require the following legislation as immediately
necessary for the preservation of the public peace, health and
21 safety; now, therefore, be it

23 **Sec. 1. Commission established; membership. Resolved:** That the
Commission to Study the Provision of Services by Schools for
25 Students Leaving Substance Abuse Treatment Centers shall be
established. The commission shall consist of 10 members,
27 appointed as follows: three members of the House of
Representatives appointed by the Speaker of the House of
29 Representatives, one of whom shall be a member of the joint
standing committee of the Legislature having jurisdiction over
31 education matters; 3 members of the Senate appointed by the
President of the Senate, one of whom shall be a member of the
33 joint standing committee of the Legislature having jurisdiction
over education matters; a representative of the Maine School
35 Management Association appointed by the Governor; a
representative of the Maine Teachers Association appointed by the
37 Governor; and 2 members of the public appointed by the Governor,
one a representative of adolescents recovering from substance
39 abuse and one a representative of providers of adolescent
substance abuse treatment services; and be it further

41 **Sec. 2. Appointment; notification. Resolved:** That all
43 appointments to the commission shall be made no later than 30
days following the effective date of this resolve. The Speaker
45 of the House of Representatives, President of the Senate and
Governor shall notify the Executive Director of the Legislative
47 Council upon making their appointments; and be it further

49 **Sec. 3. Convening of commission; selection of chair. Resolved:**
That, when appointment of all commission members is completed,
51 the Chair of the Legislative Council shall call the commission
together for its first meeting no later than August

1 15, 1989. The commission shall select a legislative member as
its chair; and be it further .

3

5 **Sec. 4. Commission charged. Resolved:** That the commission
shall study the need for and desirability of the establishment in
7 schools of more formalized aftercare programs for students
leaving formal substance abuse treatment programs. In conducting
the study, the commission shall examine the following:

9

11 1. The number of Maine students returning to school after
leaving a formal substance abuse treatment program;

13 2. The recidivism rate for adolescents who return to school
after attending substance abuse treatment programs;

15

17 3. Existing aftercare programs in Maine schools;

17

19 4. Whether academic credit should be given for
participation in aftercare programs; and

21 5. How issues of confidentiality are dealt with in
providing aftercare in schools; and be it further

23

25 **Sec. 5. Commission activities. Resolved:** That, in conducting the
study, the commission may:

27 1. Hold informational sessions for discussions with
representatives of the Department of Educational and Cultural
29 Services, Division of Alcohol and Drug Education, with
representatives of the Department of Human Services, Office of
31 Alcoholism and Drug Abuse Prevention, and with any other persons
who have expertise or information to offer on adolescent
33 substance abuse treatment and aftercare in schools;

35 2. Conduct, summarize and analyze the results of a
literature search on the topic of adolescent substance abuse
37 treatment and aftercare in schools;

39 3. Conduct legal research on the issue of confidentiality
for adolescents participating in aftercare programs and any other
41 legal issues that arise during the commission's work; and

43 4. Determine and summarize the aftercare programs already
existing in Maine and examples from other states, with emphasis
45 on programs that do not place their funding requirements on the
schools but instead make use of state or federal appropriations
47 or grants; and be it further

49 **Sec. 6. Staff. Resolved:** That the commission shall request
staffing assistance from the Legislative Council; and be it
51 further

