

# MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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# 114th MAINE LEGISLATURE

## SECOND REGULAR SESSION - 1990

Legislative Document

No. 1902

H.P. 1371

House of Representatives, December 12, 1989

Approved for introduction by a majority of the Legislative Council pursuant to Joint Rule 26.

Received by the Clerk of the House on December 12, 1989. Referred to the Committee on Human Resources and 1600 ordered printed pursuant to Joint Rule 14.

EDWIN H. PERT, Clerk

Presented by Representative BURKE of Vassalboro.

Cosponsored by Senator GAUVREAU of Androscoggin, Representative PENDLETON of Scarborough and Representative CARROLL of Gray.

STATE OF MAINE

IN THE YEAR OF OUR LORD  
NINETEEN HUNDRED AND NINETY

**An Act to Provide for a Comprehensive State Mental Retardation Plan.**



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

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4       **Sec. 1. 34-B MRSA §5003, sub-§3, ¶¶A to C, as enacted by PL 1983, c. 459, §7, are amended to read:**

6       A. The plan shall must indicate the most effective and  
8       efficient manner in which to implement services and programs  
10       for mentally-retarded persons with mental retardation, while  
safeguarding and respecting the legal and human rights of  
these persons.

12       B. The plan shall must be prepared once every 2 years and  
14       shall be submitted to the joint standing committee of the  
Legislature having jurisdiction over health and  
16       institutional human services by no later than January 15th  
of every odd-numbered year.

18       C. The committee shall study the plan and make  
20       recommendations to the Legislature with respect to funding  
improvements in programs and services to mentally-retarded  
22       persons with mental retardation.

24       **Sec. 2. 34-B MRSA §5003, sub-§3, ¶¶D to I are enacted to read:**

26       D. The plan must describe the system of mental retardation  
services in each of the mental retardation service regions  
and statewide.

28       E. The plan must include both existing service resources  
and deficiencies in the system of services.

30       F. The plan must include an assessment of the roles and  
responsibilities of mental retardation agencies, human  
service agencies, health agencies and involved state  
departments and suggest ways in which these departments and  
agencies can better cooperate to improve the service systems.

32       G. The plan must be made public within the State in such a  
manner as to facilitate public involvement.

34       H. The commissioner must ensure that the development of the  
plan includes the participation of community mental  
retardation service providers, consumer and family groups  
and other interested persons or groups in annual statewide  
hearings, as well as informal meetings and work sessions.

36       I. The commissioner must consider community service needs,  
relate these identified needs to biennial budget requests  
and incorporate necessary service initiatives into a  
comprehensive planning document.

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## STATEMENT OF FACT

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6       This bill expands the current statutory requirement for a  
state mental retardation plan and establishes a more  
comprehensive mental retardation planning document and process  
8 similar to that required for mental health services.

10

the Governor in identifying and ranking mental retardation  
12 service needs. The law does not presently require the mental  
retardation plan to quantify existing or future service needs on  
14 the regional and statewide levels or require that these needs be  
related to the department's budget requests.

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18       The comprehensive plan will also assist the Legislature and  
the Governor in determining and planning the allocation of  
budgetary resources to meet the identified, priority needs for  
20 services to persons with mental retardation in the State.