

MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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115th MAINE LEGISLATURE

FIRST REGULAR SESSION-1991

Legislative Document

No. 126

S.P. 70

In Senate, January 11, 1991

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

A handwritten signature in cursive script, reading "Joy J. O'Brien".

JOY J. O'BRIEN
Secretary of the Senate

Presented by President PRAY of Penobscot.
Cosponsored by Speaker MARTIN of Eagle Lake.

STATE OF MAINE

IN THE YEAR OF OUR LORD
NINETEEN HUNDRED AND NINETY-ONE

**An Act to Allow the Systems Assessment Commission to Extend
Reporting Deadlines.**

(EMERGENCY)



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

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6 Whereas, the Systems Assessment Commission was established
by Public Law 1989, chapter 501, Part BB, section 8; and

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10 Whereas, the commission was to submit a report to the 115th
Legislature by December 15, 1990; and

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14 Whereas, the commission needs additional time to prepare its
final report; and

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

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

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24 **Sec. 1.** PL 1989, c. 501, Pt. BB, §8, ¶G, as amended by PL 1989, c.
894, §1, is further amended to read:

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G. The commission has the following duties.

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30 (1) The commission, with the assistance of the
Department of Mental Health and Mental Retardation, the
Superintendent of the Augusta Mental Health Institute,
the Superintendent of the Bangor Mental Health
Institute and any other agency or department of State
Government, shall develop a long-range plan for the
Augusta Mental Health Institute and the Bangor Mental
Health Institute. The plan shall include consideration
of the creation of a smaller acute care facility or
facilities to take the place of the current facilities
and any other option for humane, safe and
cost-effective delivery of services to Maine's mentally
ill citizens. Following the development of a
long-range plan for the Augusta Mental Health
Institute, the commission shall develop a plan for the
Bangor Mental Health Institute. Any plans developed
shall also include an assessment of the need for and
delivery of community services, including consideration
of the drafting of model legislation governing the
delivery of mental health services statewide. The
commission shall coordinate with the Bureau of Public
Improvements, the State House and Capitol Park
Commission and the Supreme Judicial Court Plan and
Design Commission in the development of its plans for
the Augusta Mental Health Institute and the Bangor
Mental Health Institute.

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2 (2) The commission shall issue a preliminary report to
4 the Joint Standing Committee on Human Resources no
6 later than January 15, 1990. Copies of this report
8 shall be sent to the Maine Commission on Mental Health,
10 legislative leadership, the Joint Standing Committee on
12 Appropriations and Financial Affairs and to the
14 Governor. The plan shall include a preliminary
16 assessment of the issue. The commission shall include
18 any necessary adjustments to its budget which reflect
20 anticipated costs for contracts and other services
necessary for the development of the long-range plan.
A final report shall be issued to the 115th Legislature
no later than ~~December 15, 1990~~ February 1, 1991. This
report shall include a complete plan for the Augusta
Mental Health Institute and the Bangor Mental Health
Institute, including a full assessment of an
alternative facility or facilities, community resources
which are needed, costs, time frames and necessary
implementing legislation.

22 **Sec. 2. Retroactivity.** This Act applies retroactively to
24 December 15, 1990.

26 **Emergency clause.** In view of the emergency cited in the
preamble, this Act takes effect when approved.

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STATEMENT OF FACT

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32 This bill extends the reporting date of the Systems
Assessment Commission.