

MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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115th MAINE LEGISLATURE

FIRST REGULAR SESSION-1991

Legislative Document

No. 466

H.P. 336

House of Representatives, February 8, 1991

Reference to the Joint Select Committee on Corrections suggested and ordered printed.

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

EDWIN H. PERT, Clerk

Presented by Representative HANLEY of Paris.

Cosponsored by Representative HEPBURN of Skowhegan, Representative ANTHONY of South Portland and Senator GILL of Cumberland.

STATE OF MAINE

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

**Resolve, Directing the Department of Corrections to Develop a Plan for
the Employment of Correctional Facility Inmates.**



2 **Sec. 1. Commissioner to develop plan. Resolved:** That the
3 Commissioner of Corrections shall develop a plan for the
4 employment of adult inmates of all state correctional
5 facilities. The plan must specify ways in which inmates can be
6 engaged in meaningful work, regardless of their security needs.
7 The plan must address at least the following:

8 1. The feasibility of having inmates staff state toll-free
9 information numbers within correctional facilities, such as those
10 established to distribute tourism information;

12 2. The feasibility of expanding farm programs to increase
13 inmate participation at all state correctional facilities;

14 3. The range of other types of work that could be completed
15 inside and outside of correctional facilities;

18 4. Whether work should be mandatory, optional or a
19 privilege for inmates; and

20 5. The costs and benefits of any proposed work plan; and be
22 it further

24 **Sec. 2. Report. Resolved:** That the Commissioner of
25 Corrections shall present the plan in a report, along with any
26 necessary legislation, to the committee having jurisdiction over
27 corrections matters by December 1, 1991. A copy of the report
28 must be sent to the Executive Director of the Legislative
29 Council; and be it further

30 **Sec. 3. Cooperation. Resolved:** That commissioners from all
32 other state departments shall assist the Commissioner of
33 Corrections in the preparation of the plan as requested.

36 **STATEMENT OF FACT**

38 The resolve directs the Commissioner of Corrections to
39 develop a plan for the employment of adult inmates in all state
40 correctional facilities and report to the Legislature by December
41 1, 1991. The commissioner is directed specifically to
42 investigate the feasibility of employing inmates to staff
43 toll-free information numbers from within the facilities. Such a
44 program is presently operating in Montana. The commissioner is
45 also directed specifically to investigate the feasibility of
46 expanding the Department of Corrections' farm program.