

MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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STATE OF MAINE
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
115TH LEGISLATURE
FIRST REGULAR SESSION

HOUSE AMENDMENT "A" to COMMITTEE AMENDMENT "A" to H.P. 1184, L.D. 1727, "Resolve, to Develop a Statewide Health Insurance Program"

Amend the amendment by striking out everything after the title and before the statement of fact and inserting in its place the following:

'Amend the bill by striking out the title and substituting the following:

'Resolve, to Study the Feasibility of a Statewide Health Insurance Program'

Further amend the bill by striking out everything after the title and before the statement of fact and inserting in its place the following:

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

Whereas, in order for the joint select committee established in this resolve to complete its study in a timely fashion it is necessary that this legislation be enacted as an emergency measure; and

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, be it

Sec. 1. Joint select committee. Resolved: That the Joint Select Committee to Study the Feasibility of a Statewide Health Insurance Program is established; and be it further

2 **Sec. 2. Select committee membership. Resolved:** That the Joint
3 Select Committee to Study the Feasibility of a Statewide Health
4 Insurance Program consists of the members of the Joint Standing
5 Committee on Banking and Insurance and 3 adjunct members,
6 appointed jointly by the President of the Senate and the Speaker
7 of the House of Representatives. All appointments must be made
8 no later than 30 days following the effective date of this Act.
9 The President of the Senate and the Speaker of the House of
10 Representatives shall notify the Executive Director of the
11 Legislative Council upon making their appointments; and be it
12 further

13 **Sec. 3. Duties. Resolved:** That the joint select committee
14 shall study and make recommendations on the feasibility of a
15 statewide health insurance program. The committee shall study
16 the present system of health insurance, its strengths and
17 weaknesses, ways in which the system may be made more efficient
18 and how or whether more universal coverage should be obtained.
19 The committee shall study the following:

20 1. The existing levels and availability of insurance
21 coverage for citizens of the State;

22 2. The availability of continuing insurance coverage during
23 employment changes, unemployment, illnesses, travel or temporary
24 absences and after injury;

25 3. The feasibility of cost control through public
26 accountability and negotiations with providers to achieve greater
27 efficiency and improve quality of care;

28 4. Those aspects of the present system of health insurance
29 that are efficient components of a comprehensive system of
30 coverage; and

31 5. Whether financing by public revenues through a
32 progressive combination of the following is desirable or feasible:

33 A. Consolidating all of the present sources of funding
34 requiring waivers or approval from federal sources such as
35 Medicare, Medicaid, Champus, maternal and child health block
36 grants and substance abuse block grants;

37 B. Consolidating state programs including the Maine Health
38 Program, the Managed Care Insurance Plan Demonstration
39 ("Robert Wood Johnson"), the High Risk Insurance Program,
40 premium tax substance abuse programs, specific disease
41 programs such as diabetes and heart education projects; and
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2 C. Developing new public revenues that adequately replace
4 present corporate and individual spending on insurance
6 premiums and out-of-pocket expenses through a progressive
8 tax program that does not unfairly or disproportionately
burden any present payor or sector and that relieves those
payers who are unable to continue their present burden; and
be it further

10 **Sec. 4. Meetings; report. Resolved:** That the joint select
12 committee shall hold its first meeting on July 1, 1991, shall
14 hold hearings in several regions of the State to provide for
public testimony, shall report to the Second Regular Session of
the 115th Legislature no later than January 1, 1992 and shall
submit any necessary implementing legislation no later than
January 1, 1993; and be it further

18 **Sec. 5. Powers. Resolved:** That the joint select committee may
20 receive grants and hire consultants. Staff assistance and
information may be provided as necessary by the Legislative
22 Council. Consultation and information must be provided as
required by the Department of Human Services and the Department
of Professional and Financial Regulation; and be it further

24 **Sec. 6. Reimbursement. Resolved:** That members of the joint
26 select committee are entitled to legislative per diem and
expenses for the days of attendance at committee meetings upon
28 request from the Executive Director of the Legislative Council.
The Executive Director of the Legislative Council shall
30 administer the budget of the joint select committee; and be it
further

32 **Sec. 7. Funding. Resolved:** That the Legislative Council may
34 seek funding from the Robert Wood Johnson Foundation or other
outside sources to finance the joint select committee provided in
36 this resolve. The Legislative Council shall administer any
outside funds; and be it further

38 **Sec. 8. Allocation. Resolved:** That the following funds are
40 allocated from Other Special Revenue to carry out the purposes of
this resolve.

42
44 1991-92

46 **LEGISLATURE**

48 **Joint Select Committee to Study
the Feasibility of a Statewide
Health Insurance Program**

50

52 Personal Services

\$7,040

HOUSE AMENDMENT "A" to COMMITTEE AMENDMENT "A" to H.P. 1184,
L.D. 1727

2 All Other 72,960
3
4 Provides funds for the Joint
5 Select Committee to Study the
6 Feasibility of a Statewide
7 Health Insurance Program for
8 the per diem and expenses of
9 members, consulting services,
10 printing and advertising
11 costs and other meeting
12 expenses.

13 **LEGISLATURE**
14 **TOTAL** \$80,000

15 ; and be it further

16
17 **Sec. 9. Appropriation. Resolved:** That the following funds are
18 appropriated from the General Fund to carry out the purposes of
19 this resolve.

20
21
22 1991-92

23 **LEGISLATURE**

24 **Joint Select Committee to Study**
25 **the Feasibility of a Statewide Health**
26 **Insurance Program**

27
28
29 Personal Services \$7,040
30 All Other 6,880

31
32 Provides funding for the
33 Joint Select Committee to
34 Study the Feasibility of a
35 Statewide Health Insurance
36 Program for the per diem and
37 expenses for members,
38 printing and advertising
39 costs and other meeting
40 expenses. If funds from the
41 Robert Wood Johnson
42 Foundation or other private
43 sources become available,
44 these funds may not be
45 expended and must lapse to
46 the General Fund.

47
48 **LEGISLATURE**
49 **TOTAL** \$13,920

2 **Emergency clause.** In view of the emergency cited in the
4 preamble, this resolve takes effect when approved.

6
8 **FISCAL NOTE**

10 This bill establishes the Joint Select Committee to Study
12 the Feasibility of a Statewide Health Insurance Program and
14 allocates Other Special Revenue funds to the Legislature of
16 \$80,000 in fiscal year 1991-92 for the per diem and expenses of
18 members, consulting services, printing and other meeting
expenses. It additionally provides a General Fund appropriation
to the Legislature of \$13,920 in fiscal year 1991-92 that will be
used for the per diem and expenses of members and printing if
funding from the Robert Wood Johnson Foundation or other private
sources is not received and that must lapse if those other funds
are received. Costs associated with staff assistance will be
absorbed within existing resources of the Legislature.''

20 **STATEMENT OF FACT**

22 This amendment has the same provisions as Senate Amendment
24 "A" to Committee Amendment "A", S-312, except that the date to
26 submit necessary implementing legislation has been changed from
July 1, 1993 to January 1, 1993.

28

Filed by Rep. Mitchell of Vassalboro
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House
(6/11/91) (Filing No. H-640)