

# MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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L.D. 1727

(Filing No. S-312)

STATE OF MAINE  
SENATE  
115TH LEGISLATURE  
FIRST REGULAR SESSION

SENATE 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

R. of S.

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

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

22           1. The existing levels and availability of insurance  
23 coverage for citizens of the State;

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

28           3. The feasibility of cost control through public  
29 accountability and negotiations with providers to achieve greater  
30 efficiency and improve quality of care;

32           4. Those aspects of the present system of health insurance  
33 that are efficient components of a comprehensive system of  
34 coverage; and

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

40           A. Consolidating all of the present sources of funding  
41 requiring waivers or approval from federal sources such as  
42 Medicare, Medicaid, Champus, maternal and child health block  
43 grants and substance abuse block grants;

44           B. Consolidating state programs including the Maine Health  
45 Program, the Managed Care Insurance Plan Demonstration  
46 ("Robert Wood Johnson"), the High Risk Insurance Program,  
47 premium tax substance abuse programs, specific disease  
48 programs such as diabetes and heart education projects; and

50

R. of S.

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

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C. Developing new public revenues that adequately replace present corporate and individual spending on insurance premiums and out-of-pocket expenses through a progressive tax program that does not unfairly or disproportionately burden any present payor or sector and that relieves those payors who are unable to continue their present burden; and be it further

**Sec. 4. Meetings; report. Resolved:** That the joint select committee shall hold its first meeting on July 1, 1991, shall 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 July 1, 1993; and be it further

**Sec. 5. Powers. Resolved:** That the joint select committee may receive grants and hire consultants. Staff assistance and information may be provided as necessary by the Legislative 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

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

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

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

1991-92

**LEGISLATURE**

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

Personal Services

\$7,040

R. of S.

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

2	All Other	72,960
4	Provides funds for the Joint	
6	Select Committee to Study the	
8	Feasibility of a Statewide	
10	Health Insurance Program for	
12	the per diem and expenses of	
14	members, consulting services,	
	printing and advertising	
	costs and other meeting	
	expenses.	
	<b>LEGISLATURE</b>	
	<b>TOTAL</b>	<u>\$80,000</u>

16 ; and be it further

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

22 1991-92

24	<b>LEGISLATURE</b>	
26	<b>Joint Select Committee to Study</b>	
28	<b>the Feasibility of a Statewide Health</b>	
	<b>Insurance Program</b>	
30	Personal Services	\$7,040
32	All Other	6,880
34	Provides funding for the	
36	Joint Select Committee to	
38	Study the Feasibility of a	
40	Statewide Health Insurance	
42	Program for the per diem and	
44	expenses for members,	
46	printing and advertising	
48	costs and other meeting	
	expenses. If funds from the	
	Robert Wood Johnson	
	Foundation or other private	
	sources become available,	
	these funds may not be	
	expended and must lapse to	
	the General Fund.	
50	<b>LEGISLATURE</b>	
	<b>TOTAL</b>	<u>\$13,920</u>

R. of S.

SENATE AMENDMENT " A " to COMMITTEE AMENDMENT "A" to H.P. 1184,  
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**Emergency clause.** In view of the emergency cited in the preamble, this resolve takes effect when approved.

**FISCAL NOTE**

This bill establishes the Joint Select Committee to Study the Feasibility of a Statewide Health Insurance Program and allocates Other Special Revenue funds to the Legislature of \$80,000 in fiscal year 1991-92 for the per diem and expenses of 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.'

**STATEMENT OF FACT**

This amendment retains most of the changes made by the committee amendment but alters the mission of the select committee by requiring it to study the feasibility of a statewide health insurance program rather than charging the committee to develop such a program.

(Senator THERIAULT)  
SPONSORED BY: 

COUNTY: Aroostook

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(6/6/91) (Filing No. S-312)