

# MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

The following document is provided by the  
**LAW AND LEGISLATIVE DIGITAL LIBRARY**  
at the Maine State Law and Legislative Reference Library  
<http://legislature.maine.gov/lawlib>



Reproduced from scanned originals with text recognition applied  
(searchable text may contain some errors and/or omissions)

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

COMMITTEE AMENDMENT "A" to H.P. 1633, L.D. 2297, "Resolve,  
to Ensure Protection and Family Support for Maine's Children"

Amend the resolve by striking out everything after the  
emergency preamble and before the emergency clause and inserting  
in its place the following:

**Sec. 1. Comprehensive review. Resolved:** That the Department  
of Human Services shall conduct a comprehensive review of  
protective and family support services for children. In  
conducting the review, the department shall:

1. Identify state, local, public and private resources  
available for provision of services to children who are abused or  
neglected;

2. Identify areas of need in order to make recommendations  
to enhance the State's child protective services system;

3. Determine the extent to which state and federal dollars  
might be increased for those services currently provided or for  
added services;

4. Review the protective case system of the Department of  
Human Services to determine the extent to which protective  
services might be further developed through additional community  
services activities;

5. Determine how local communities and agencies might  
become more involved in planning and resource allocation and  
development and how the State's role in planning, resource  
development and technical assistance can be increased to support  
local communities;

COMMITTEE AMENDMENT "A" to H.P. 1633, L.D. 2297

2 6. Determine what, if any, statutory, regulatory or policy  
4 changes are necessary to allow or support an increased role for  
local communities and contracted service agencies in the  
provision of protective services;

6 7. Determine what, if any, statutory changes are necessary  
8 to allow or support maximization of federal funding sources for  
local expenditures, as well as technical, regulatory or  
10 procedural changes in the Department of Human Services that may  
be necessary to maximize the use of federal resources in support  
of local programs and services; and

12 8. Determine whether adequate mechanisms exist to enable  
14 families, providers, state employees and citizens to request  
further action when they believe that the State's child  
16 protective services system is not responding appropriately to  
abuse or neglect; and be it further

18 **Sec. 2. Establishment of oversight committee; consultation.**  
20 **Resolved:** That the Department of Human Services, in conducting  
this comprehensive review, shall establish and consult with an  
22 oversight committee consisting of appropriate state agencies,  
local provider agencies involved with children in need of  
24 protection and other appropriate representatives, including, but  
not limited to:

- 26 1. Chiefs of Police;  
28 2. Maine State Nurses Association;  
30 3. Pediatricians;  
32 4. Superintendents of school administrative units;  
34 5. Maine Municipal Association;  
36 6. Child abuse and neglect councils;  
38 7. Mental health centers;  
40 8. Parents;  
42 9. Principals and special education directors;  
44 10. Human services providers involved with children in need  
46 of protection;  
48 11. Low-income organizations; and

12. Other groups and individuals the department finds appropriate; and be it further

**Sec. 3. Coordination with Medicaid Plan for Children and Families.**

**Resolved:** That the Department of Human Services shall coordinate the development of this comprehensive review with the implementation of the Medicaid Plan for Children and Families developed pursuant to Resolve 1989, chapter 103. In so doing, the Department of Human Services shall:

1. Determine the implications of the Medicaid Plan for Children and Families for increasing support of other state, local, public and private agencies in the provision of protective services;

2. Identify local dollars that may be available for match by any appropriate federal source; and

3. Identify any state, local or private resources to assist in the maximization of available federal resources; and be it further

**Sec. 4. Staffing; funding. Resolved:** That the Department of Human Services shall provide support staff and funds for contracted consultant services within its existing resources to conduct the comprehensive review; and be it further

**Sec. 5. Report. Resolved:** That the oversight committee established in section 2 shall submit an interim report to the Joint Standing Committee on Human Resources and the Joint Standing Committee on Appropriations and Financial Affairs by September 1, 1992. The oversight committee shall submit a final report to the Joint Standing Committee on Human Resources and the Joint Standing Committee on Appropriations and Financial Affairs by November 15, 1992.

The Department of Human Services shall review the final report of the oversight committee and develop a comprehensive plan. The department shall submit its plan to the joint standing committees of the Legislature having jurisdiction over human resources matters and appropriations and financial affairs by March 1, 1993. The plan must outline the department's response to the findings of the oversight committee and must include any necessary implementing legislation. The department shall implement recommendations prior to submitting its plan if possible, and shall defer only those changes that require legislative approval; and be it further



COMMITTEE AMENDMENT "A" to H.P. 1633, L.D. 2297

2 be absorbed by the Department of Human Services utilizing  
existing budgeted resources.'

4  
6  
**STATEMENT OF FACT**

8 The amendment requires that the oversight committee  
established by the Department of Human Services develop its  
10 recommendations prior to the department's development of a plan.  
It also moves the reporting date for the plan from January 15 to  
March 1, 1993.

12  
14 The amendment broadens the charge and membership of the  
oversight committee and gives the committee access to  
confidential information.

16  
18 The amendment also adds an appropriation section and fiscal  
note to the resolve.

Reported by the Committee on Human Resources  
Reproduced and distributed under the direction of the Clerk of the  
use  
13/92 (Filing No. H-1110)