

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)



115th MAINE LEGISLATURE

SECOND REGULAR SESSION-1992

Legislative Document

No. 2324

S.P. 904

In Senate, February 13, 1992

Submitted by the Special Commission on Governmental Restructuring pursuant to Public Law 1991, chapter 139.

Reference to the Committee on State and Local Government suggested and ordered printed.

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Joy J. O'Brien".

JOY J. O'BRIEN
Secretary of the Senate

STATE OF MAINE

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

Resolve, to Establish Regional Boundaries for Health and Social Services.

(EMERGENCY)

Printed on recycled paper



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

4
6 **Whereas,** regionalization of services offers significant
opportunities for improving the cost-effectiveness of delivering
health and social services; and

8
10 **Whereas,** the State must immediately begin consolidating its
health and social service delivery systems into consistent
regions; and

12
14 **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
16 necessary for the preservation of the public peace, health and
safety; now, therefore, be it

18 **Sec. 1. Regional boundaries for health and social services.**

20 **Resolved:** That the Chair of the Interdepartmental Council shall
submit to the Joint Standing Committee on Human Resources and the
22 Office of the Executive Director of the Legislative Council by
December 15, 1992 a plan to unify regional service delivery
24 boundaries for all health and social services. The plan must be
prepared by the Commissioner of Human Services, the Commissioner
26 of Mental Health and Mental Retardation, the Commissioner of
Education, the Commissioner of Corrections and the Commissioner
28 of Labor with the assistance of the State Planning Office and the
advice of Legislators and community and regional officials. To
30 the greatest extent practicable, the plan must recommend uniform
regional boundaries for the departments and consolidation of
32 regional resources through interdepartmental location of offices,
sharing of equipment and data processing and other
34 efficiency-enhancing means. Uniform boundaries must be
established in accordance with the following criteria.

36
38 1. Regions must be small enough to provide adequate access
to services and to encourage local participation in regional
40 matters, but large enough to provide an adequate population base
for efficient and effective service planning and delivery.

42 2. Regions must be defined by natural market areas that are
determined by patterns of retail trade, employment, health and
44 social service systems, educational districts and transportation
systems.

46
48 The plan must include any necessary legislation and a
schedule to fully implement the plan by December 31, 1993.

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

2

STATEMENT OF FACT

4

6 This resolve is one of the measures submitted by the Special
Commission on Governmental Restructuring. The resolve requires
8 the Department of Human Services, the Department of Mental Health
and Mental Retardation, the Department of Corrections, the
Department of Education and the Department of Labor to develop a
10 plan for conterminous regional service delivery boundaries. The
Chair of the Interdepartmental Council shall present the plan to
12 the Legislature by December 15, 1992.

14