

MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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116th MAINE LEGISLATURE

FIRST REGULAR SESSION-1993

Legislative Document

No. 198

S.P. 85

In Senate, January 28, 1993

An Act to Improve Access to Dental Services.

Reference to the Committee on Human Resources suggested and ordered printed.

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

JOY J. O'BRIEN
Secretary of the Senate

Presented by Senator BRANNIGAN of Cumberland.
Cosponsored by Senators: BALDACCI of Penobscot, PARADIS of Aroostook, Representative:
TREAT of Gardiner.

Be it enacted by the People of the State of Maine as follows:

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3 **Sec. 1. Ad hoc committee.** The Ad Hoc Committee on Access to
4 Dental Services is established to examine ways that federal funds
5 for dental services may be maximized by using existing state,
6 local and private funds to meet any matching requirements that
7 exist. The goal of the committee is to improve access to dental
8 services for people with low-income.

10 **Sec. 2. Members.** The committee consists of 6 members as
11 follows:

12 1. One representative from the Department of Human
13 Services, appointed by the Commissioner of Human Services;

16 2. One representative from the Department of Mental Health
17 and Mental Retardation, appointed by the Commissioner of Mental
18 Health and Mental Retardation;

20 3. One representative from the Department of Corrections,
21 appointed by the Commissioner of Corrections; and

22 4. One representative from each of the 3 nonprofit agencies
23 that administer community-based dental health clinics in the
24 State, with each representative appointed by the executive
25 director of that representative's nonprofit agency.

28 **Sec. 3. Chair.** The committee shall select a chair by majority
29 vote at the first meeting.

30 **Sec. 4. Meetings.** The committee shall meet at least a total
31 of 4 times and may hold as many additional meetings as
32 necessary. The member representing the Department of Human
33 Services shall call the first meeting no later than October 15,
34 1993.

36 **Sec. 5. Staff.** Members shall provide staffing assistance from
37 their respective agencies within existing resources.

40 **Sec. 6. Funding.** Members are not entitled to compensation or
41 per diem. State agencies shall absorb the costs of their
42 participation within existing resources. The Department of Human
43 Services shall absorb the costs of producing the report within
44 existing resources.

46 **Sec. 7. Report.** By February 1, 1994, the committee shall
47 submit its findings, recommendations and any necessary
48 implementing legislation to the Joint Standing Committee on Human
49 Resources, the Joint Standing Committee on Appropriations and
50 Financial Affairs and the Executive Director of the Legislative
51 Council. Upon submission of the report, the committee is
52 dissolved.

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STATEMENT OF FACT

This bill establishes an ad hoc committee to improve access to dental services. The group is comprised of state agency representatives and nonprofit dental clinic representatives. The committee is charged with examining ways to maximize federal funding for dental services to people with low-income. The committee, which must conduct its work with no new funding, is to report to the Legislature by February 1, 1994.