

MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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STATE OF MAINE
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
116TH LEGISLATURE
FIRST REGULAR SESSION

COMMITTEE AMENDMENT "A" to H.P. 479, L.D. 616, Bill, "An Act to Reestablish Pineland Center as a Training, Education, Research and Treatment Center"

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

'An Act Regarding the Future of the State's Mental Retardation Services System'

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

'Sec. 1. Development of new facilities. The Department of Mental Health and Mental Retardation shall examine the feasibility of developing 3 state-operated, community-based mental retardation facilities, each having the capacity to serve up to 20 people. If the department finds the development of those facilities feasible, it shall present a development plan to the Joint Standing Committee on Human Resources by January 1, 1994. The plan must recommend a location for each of the facilities. In developing its recommendations regarding location of facilities, the department shall consider the option of locating one or more facilities on the grounds of Pineland Center. If the department does not find the development of those facilities feasible or appropriate, it shall present its findings to the Joint Standing Committee on Human Resources by January 1, 1994, along with an alternative plan that specifies how the needs of Pineland Center residents will be met as the department's plan for Pineland Center evolves. The plan must identify the projected level of care needed by the residents; any gaps in community services including but not limited to recreation, crisis intervention and respite care; barriers to successful community living; the schedule for developing needed community services; and the level of services the department expects to offer at Pineland Center over the next 2 to 5 years.

COMMITTEE AMENDMENT

R. 013

2 **Sec. 2. Transition for Pineland Center employees.** The Department
 of Mental Health and Mental Retardation shall work with the
 Department of Labor to provide transition assistance to employees
 4 who are displaced by staff reductions at Pineland Center. Every
 practical effort, including but not limited to job training and
 6 placement services, must be made to assist the employees in
 finding other employment.

8 **Sec. 3. Economic redevelopment.** The Department of Mental
 10 Health and Mental Retardation, the Department of Economic and
 Community Development and the State Planning Office shall make
 12 every practical effort to seek economic redevelopment assistance
 for the areas affected by the reduction in capacity of Pineland
 14 Center. Federal funds or other funds must be sought. The
 Department of Mental Health and Mental Retardation and the
 16 Department of Economic and Community Development shall
 collaborate with local officials from the affected areas in
 18 seeking this assistance.

FISCAL NOTE

22 The Department of Mental Health and Mental Retardation will
 24 incur some minor additional costs to examine the feasibility of
 developing 3 state-operated mental retardation facilities and to
 26 report the findings. The department will also incur minor
 additional costs to provide transition assistance to certain
 28 Pineland Center employees and to seek economic redevelopment
 assistance for the areas affected by the reduction in Pineland
 30 Center's capacity. These costs can be absorbed within the
 Department of Mental Health and Mental Retardation's existing
 32 budgeted resources.

34 The additional costs to seek economic redevelopment
 assistance can be absorbed by the Department of Economic and
 36 Community Development and the State Planning Office utilizing
 existing budgeted resources.

38 The Department of Labor will incur some minor additional
 40 costs to work with the Department of Mental Health and Mental
 Retardation to provide transition services to Pineland Center
 42 employees who are displaced by staff reductions. These costs can
 be absorbed within the Department of Labor's existing budgeted
 44 resources.

STATEMENT OF FACT

46 This amendment replaces the original bill. It requires the
 48 Department of Mental Health and Mental Retardation to plan for
 the future of Pineland Center and the mental retardation system
 50

2 and to assess the feasibility of developing 3 state-operated,
community-based facilities as part of that plan.

4 The amendment also requires the Department of Mental Health
and Mental Retardation to work with the Department of Labor to
6 provide assistance to displaced Pineland Center workers, and to
work with the Department of Economic and Community Development
8 and the State Planning Office in seeking economic redevelopment
assistance for areas affected by the reduction in capacity of
10 Pineland Center.

12 This amendment also adds a fiscal note to the bill.

Reported by the Committee on Human Resources
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House
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