

MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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116th MAINE LEGISLATURE

FIRST REGULAR SESSION-1993

Legislative Document

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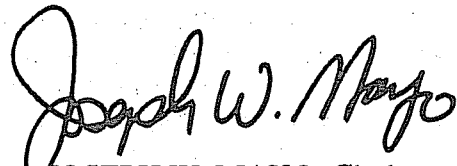
H.P. 927

House of Representatives, April 13, 1993

**Resolve, Directing the Bureau of Health to Study the Problem of
Violence among Children, Teens and Young Adults.**

(EMERGENCY)

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


JOSEPH W. MAYO, Clerk

Presented by Representative SIMONDS of Cape Elizabeth.
Cosponsored by Representatives: CATHCART of Orono, HOGLUND of Portland, JOHNSON
of South Portland, PENDEXTER of Scarborough, Senators: CONLEY of Cumberland,
HARRIMAN of Cumberland.

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

Whereas, injuries are the 5th leading cause of death in
Maine and the leading cause of death for residents under 35 years
of age; and

Whereas, suicide and homicide represent about 1/3 of total
injury deaths; and

Whereas, during 1989 and 1990 in Maine, male assaults on
females accounted for 75% of the total number of assaults and
another 6% were assaults on children by parents; and

Whereas, during 1989, of 2,257 children who were
substantiated victims of abuse, 48 had major physical injuries
and 541 had minor physical injuries; and

Whereas, it is known that children growing up in violent
families may exhibit aggressive, disruptive behavior with
siblings and schoolmates, delinquency and violence; 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. Study to identify extent of violence among children.

Resolved: That the Department of Human Services, Bureau of
Health, Division of Maternal and Child Health shall study
available data to identify the extent of the problem of violence
among children, teens and young adults in the State. In addition
to identifying the problem, the study must assess the need for
further steps, including any legislation necessary, and make
recommendations that would reduce the incidence and impact of
violence among those at highest risk in a report to the Joint
Standing Committee on Human Resources and the Executive Director
of the Legislative Council by November 1, 1993.

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

STATEMENT OF FACT

The purpose of this resolve is to identify, study and report
on the extent of the problem of violence among children, teens
and young adults in the State.