

MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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STATE OF MAINE
SENATE
116TH LEGISLATURE
FIRST REGULAR SESSION

COMMITTEE AMENDMENT "A" to S.P. 487, L.D. 1498, "Resolve, to Transfer the Responsibilities of the Division for the Blind and Visually Impaired from the Department of Human Services to the Department of Education"

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

'Resolve, to Transfer the Responsibilities of the Bureau of Rehabilitation from the Department of Human Services to the Department of Education'

Further amend the resolve by striking out everything after the title and before the statement of fact and inserting in its place the following:

'Sec. 1. Bureau of Rehabilitation transferred; transition. Resolved:
That, on the effective date of this resolve, the Department of Education assumes all responsibilities of the Bureau of Rehabilitation, which is within the Department of Human Services, except the responsibilities of the Division of Disability Determination Services. All duties and responsibilities of the Bureau of Rehabilitation, except the duties and responsibilities of the Division of Disability Determination Services, become the duties and responsibilities of the Department of Education on the effective date of this resolve. All positions, employees and related functions of the Bureau of Rehabilitation, except the positions, employees and functions in the Division of Disability Determination Services, must be transferred administratively to the Department of Education. All existing appropriations and allocations of the Bureau of Rehabilitation, except those appropriations and allocations assigned to the Division of Disability Determination Services, are transferred to the Department of Education.

The Commissioner of Education shall submit to the Legislature by January 30, 1994 proposed legislation detailing the statutory and budgetary changes necessary to include the independent federal rehabilitation plan and to fully implement the transfer of the Bureau of Rehabilitation to the Department of Education. Laws affecting the Bureau of Rehabilitation remain in effect until new language is adopted following the January 30, 1994 submission by the Commissioner of Education and references in those laws to the Department of Human Services are deemed to refer to the Department of Education.

FISCAL NOTE

This resolve provides for the transfer of the Bureau of Rehabilitation, except for the Division of Disability Determination Services, from the Department of Human Services to the Department of Education. The Department of Education can absorb any costs associated with preparing legislation to implement necessary statutory and budgetary changes. The precise amount of the appropriations and allocations that would be transferred can not be determined at this time.

The Governor's proposed current services budget includes changes that may affect this resolve's impact on the Bureau of Rehabilitation. This estimate of the fiscal impact may need to be adjusted based on final legislative actions on the current services budget.'

STATEMENT OF FACT

This amendment strikes the original resolve title and resolve, which transferred the Division for the Blind and Visually Impaired from the Bureau of Rehabilitation within the Department of Human Services to the Department of Education. The amendment moves the entire Bureau of Rehabilitation, except the Division of Disability Determination Services, from the Department of Human Services to the Department of Education. The amendment directs the Commissioner of Education to submit legislation detailing statutory and budgetary changes necessary to fully implement the transfer to the Legislature by January 30, 1994. The amendment also adds a fiscal note.

Reported by Senator O'Dea for the Committee on Education.
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