MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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116th MAINE LEGISLATURE

SECOND REGULAR SESSION-1994

Legislative Document

No. 1724

H.P. 1276

House of Representatives, January 13, 1994

Resolve, to Promote Consumer Choice and Quality Competition in Supported Living Arrangements.

Approved for introduction by a majority of the Legislative Council pursuant to Joint Rule 26. Reference to the Committee on Human Resources suggested and ordered printed.

OSEPH W. MAYO, Clerk

Presented by Representative FITZPATRICK of Durham. Cosponsored by Representatives: BRENNAN of Portland, TREAT of Gardiner.

- Sec. 1. Voucher system. Resolved: That the Commissioner of Mental Health and Mental Retardation shall institute a voucher system as the sole means to purchase community supports and services for persons with mental retardation by October 1, 1994; and be it further
- Sec. 2. Report. Resolved: That the Commissioner of Mental Health and Mental Retardation shall submit to the joint standing committee of the Legislature having jurisdiction over mental health and mental retardation matters no later than March 1, 1994 a plan for implementing the voucher system required in section 1 of this resolve and any necessary implementing legislation; and be it further
- Sec. 3. Waiver application. Resolved: That the Department of Mental Health and Mental Retardation, in conjunction with the Department of Human Services, shall prepare and submit for federal approval no later than October 1, 1994 any waiver request necessary to limit the number of beds licensed as intermediate care facility for the mentally retarded-nursing to 15, to eliminate all beds licensed as intermediate care facility for the mentally retarded-group and to provide Medicaid reimbursement for supported living arrangements as an alternative; and be it further
- Sec. 4. Rules. Resolved: That the Commissioner of Human Services and the Commissioner of Mental Health and Mental Retardation may adopt rules necessary to carry out the purposes of this resolve.

STATEMENT OF FACT

This resolve requires the Department of Mental Health and Mental Retardation to implement a voucher system as the sole means to purchase community-based supportive services for persons with mental retardation and to submit a plan for implementing the voucher system to the Legislature. This resolve also directs the Department of Human Services and the Department of Mental Health and Mental Retardation to pursue federal waivers that would result in the elimination of all intermediate care facility for the mentally retarded-group beds and limit the number of intermediate care facility for the mentally retarded-nursing beds to 15 in favor of Medicaid-reimbursable supportive living arrangements.

This document has not yet been reviewed to determine the need for cross-reference, stylistic and other technical amendments to conform existing law to current drafting standards.