

MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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117th MAINE LEGISLATURE

FIRST REGULAR SESSION-1995

Legislative Document

No. 77

S.P. 47

In Senate, January 17, 1995

**Resolve, Directing the Department of Corrections to Develop a Plan for
the Employment of Correctional Facility Inmates.**

Reference to the Committee on Criminal Justice suggested and ordered printed.

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "May M. Ross".

MAY M. ROSS
Secretary of the Senate

Presented by Senator HANLEY of Oxford.
Cosponsored by Senators: BENOIT of Franklin, PENDEXTER of Cumberland,
Representatives: BARTH of Bethel, BIRNEY of Paris, WATERHOUSE of Bridgton,
WINSOR of Norway.

2 **Sec. 1. Commissioner to develop plan. Resolved:** That the
3 Commissioner of Corrections shall develop a plan for the
4 employment of adult inmates of all state correctional
5 facilities. The plan must specify ways in which inmates can be
6 engaged in meaningful work, regardless of their security needs.
7 The plan must address at least the following:

8 1. The feasibility of having inmates staff state toll-free
9 information numbers within correctional facilities, such as those
10 established to distribute tourism information;

11 2. The feasibility of expanding farm programs to increase
12 inmate participation at all state correctional facilities;

13 3. The range of other types of work that could be completed
14 inside and outside of correctional facilities;

15 4. Whether work should be mandatory, optional or a
16 privilege for inmates; and

17 5. The costs and benefits of any proposed work plan; and be
18 it further
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22 **Sec. 2. Report. Resolved:** That the Commissioner of
23 Corrections shall present the plan in a report, along with any
24 necessary legislation, to the committee having jurisdiction over
25 corrections matters by December 1, 1995. A copy of the report
26 must be sent to the Executive Director of the Legislative
27 Council; and be it further
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31 **Sec. 3. Cooperation. Resolved:** That commissioners from all
32 other state departments shall assist the Commissioner of
33 Corrections in the preparation of the plan as requested.
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36 STATEMENT OF FACT

37 The resolve directs the Commissioner of Corrections to
38 develop a plan for the employment of adult inmates in all state
39 correctional facilities and report to the Legislature by December
40 1, 1995. The commissioner is directed specifically to
41 investigate the feasibility of employing inmates to staff
42 toll-free information numbers from within the facilities. The
43 commissioner is also directed specifically to investigate the
44 feasibility of expanding the Department of Corrections' farm
45 program.
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