

# MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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# 117th MAINE LEGISLATURE

## FIRST REGULAR SESSION-1995

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Legislative Document

No. 540

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H.P. 405

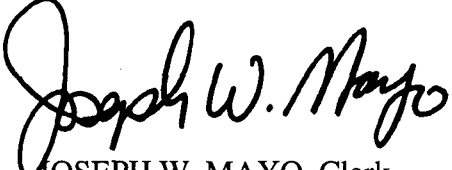
House of Representatives, February 14, 1995

**Resolve, to Implement the Recommendations of the Healthy Start Task Force.**

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Reported by Representative FITZPATRICK for the Healthy Start Task Force pursuant to Resolve 1993, chapter 54.

Reference to the Joint Standing Committee on Human Resources suggested and printing ordered under Joint Rule 20.

  
JOSEPH W. MAYO, Clerk

2           **Sec. 1. Healthy Start Pilot Project. Resolved:** That the Healthy  
3 Start Pilot Project is established in the Department of Human  
4 Services to provide in 3 geographically diverse locations a  
5 community-based home visitation program that is preventative,  
6 comprehensive, family-focused and universally available within  
7 the project areas.

8           The Department of Human Services shall administer a contract  
9 program under which 3 pilot projects are funded. The following  
10 are required elements of the contracts: consistent program  
11 design; comprehensive and uniform training of personnel; and  
12 systematic evaluation. The pilot projects must collaborate with  
13 other entities in the community providing services to families in  
14 order to expand on existing services.

15           All pilot projects must use the Hawaii Healthy Start manual  
16 and adopt the following Maine Healthy Start Critical Elements.

17           1. Pilot projects must offer services on a voluntary basis  
18 to families in the projects areas.

19           2. First-tier supportive services must be available to all  
20 new parents and include:

21           A. Community-level, home-based nursing services to attend  
22 to the newborn infant care issues;

23           B. Outreach that provides periodic child health and  
24 development information and encourages families to seek out  
25 help as needed; and

26           C. Use of any other existing family support outreach  
27 services in Maine communities.

28           3. Second-tier home visitor services must be offered to  
29 parents who need them and must be continued with frequency that  
30 matches the needs of the family.

31           4. Identification of needs must be done using the Hawaii  
32 Family Stress Checklist.

33           5. Pilot projects must accept families prenatally until  
34 children are 6 months of age and continue those services until  
35 the child is 5 years of age.

36           6. To encourage acceptance of 2nd-tier services when  
37 needed, outreach must continue for at least 3 months.

38           7. Services must be family-focused, promote healthy child  
39 development and assist the family toward independence.  
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2 8. Families must be linked to primary health care providers.

4 9. Pilot projects must work with other community service  
6 providers and should complement family preservation and support  
8 services that are developed from the federal Omnibus Budget  
10 Reconciliation Act of 1993.

12 10. Home visitors must receive ongoing professional  
14 supervision and have limited caseloads.

16 All pilot projects are for 4 years' duration, with the first  
18 contracts for each program to last 2 years. Administrative costs  
20 for each program are limited to 10% of the program cost for  
22 general administration. The cost of the evaluation is limited to  
24 15% of the program cost. One of the pilot projects or a separate  
26 entity shall oversee all 3 projects and shall evaluate the  
28 projects.

30 All pilot projects must match 25% of the contract amount  
32 with community-based funding, which may be a combination of cash  
34 and in-kind contributions of space, equipment, supplies, staff  
36 time or services.

38 All pilot projects shall meet regularly with the other  
40 projects and the Bureau of Child and Family Services to share  
42 experiences, coordinate efforts, plan for statewide expansion and  
44 coordinate searches for outside funding to supplement any General  
46 Fund appropriations for the last 2 years of their duration; and  
48 be it further

50 **Sec. 2. Report. Resolved:** That all pilot projects shall  
submit reports on their findings to the joint standing committee  
of the Legislature having jurisdiction over human resources  
matters and to the Executive Director of the Legislative Council  
by January 1, 1996; and be it further

**Sec. 3. Appropriation. Resolved:** That the following funds are  
appropriated from the General Fund to carry out the purposes of  
this resolve.

	<b>1995-96</b>	<b>1996-97</b>
<b>44 HUMAN SERVICES,</b>		
<b>46 DEPARTMENT OF</b>		
<b>48 Healthy Start Pilot Project</b>		
50 All Other	\$556,842	\$953,731

2 Provides for 3 pilot projects  
to administer community-based  
4 home visitation programs.

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**STATEMENT OF FACT**

10 This resolve implements the recommendations of the Healthy  
Start Task Force. It establishes the Healthy Start Pilot Project  
12 in 3 locations to provide community-based home visitation  
programs that are preventative, comprehensive, family-focused and  
14 universally available within the project areas. The Department  
of Human Services administers the pilot projects through a  
16 contract process. All pilot projects use consistent program  
design, training and evaluation, the Hawaii Healthy Start manual  
and the Maine Healthy Start Critical Elements. All pilot  
18 projects must collaborate with other entities in the community  
providing services to families.

20 The pilot projects are of 4 years' duration and are funded  
22 for the first 2 years. Administrative costs are limited to 10%  
and evaluation costs to 15% of the project cost. All pilot  
24 projects must match 25% of the contract amount with  
community-based funding. All pilot projects must meet regularly  
26 with the other projects and with the Bureau of Child and Family  
Services.

28 Reports to the joint standing committee of the Legislature  
30 having jurisdiction over human resources matters and the  
Executive Director of the Legislative Council are due from all  
32 pilot projects by January 1, 1996.

34 There is an appropriation for fiscal year 1995-96 of  
\$556,842 and for fiscal year 1996-97 of \$953,731.  
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