

MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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117th MAINE LEGISLATURE

FIRST REGULAR SESSION-1995

Legislative Document

No. 885

H.P. 662

House of Representatives, March 21, 1995

**Resolve, to Create a Task Force to Review the State's Involuntary
Commitment Law.**

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

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Joseph W. Mayo".

JOSEPH W. MAYO, Clerk

Presented by Representative FITZPATRICK of Durham.
Cosponsored by Senator: PENDEXTER of Cumberland.

2 **Sec. 1. Task force established. Resolved:** That the Task Force to
Review Maine's Laws Concerning Involuntary Commitment, referred
4 to in this resolve as the "task force," is established; and be it
further

6 **Sec. 2. Task force membership; cochairs. Resolved:** That the
task force consists of 15 members appointed by the Commissioner
8 of Mental Health and Mental Retardation and the members must
include representatives of all parties affected or potentially
10 affected by a change to the laws concerning involuntary
commitment, including, but not limited to, consumers, family
12 members, mental health professionals, community mental health
service providers, hospital officials and law enforcement
14 officials. The task force shall select at its first meeting 2
members to serve as cochairs; and be it further

16 **Sec. 3. Appointments. Resolved:** That all appointments must be
18 made no later than 30 days following the effective date of this
resolve. The Commissioner of Mental Health and Mental
20 Retardation shall notify the Executive Director of the
Legislative Council upon making the appointments. When the
22 appointment of all members is complete, the Chair of the
Legislative Council shall convene the first meeting of the task
24 force no later than November 15, 1995; and be it further

26 **Sec. 4. Duties. Resolved:** That the task force shall identify
and review the existing state statutes pertaining to involuntary
28 commitment and determine if any changes need to be made to those
statutes; and be it further

30 **Sec. 5. Staff assistance. Resolved:** That the task force may
32 request staffing and clerical assistance from the Department of
Mental Health and Mental Retardation; and be it further

34 **Sec. 6. Reimbursement. Resolved:** That the members of the
36 task force are not entitled to reimbursement for travel or other
expenses; and be it further

38 **Sec. 7. Report. Resolved:** That the task force shall submit
40 its report together with any accompanying legislation to the
Second Regular Session of the 117th Legislature by January 30,
42 1996.

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STATEMENT OF FACT

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4 This resolve establishes the Task Force to Review Maine's
6 Laws Concerning Involuntary Commitment. The task force shall
8 identify and review the existing state statutes pertaining to
 involuntary commitment and submit a report together with any
 accompanying legislation to the Joint Standing Committee on Human
 Resources by January 30, 1996.