

# MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

The following document is provided by the  
**LAW AND LEGISLATIVE DIGITAL LIBRARY**  
at the Maine State Law and Legislative Reference Library  
<http://legislature.maine.gov/lawlib>



Reproduced from scanned originals with text recognition applied  
(searchable text may contain some errors and/or omissions)

M  
R 26

L.D.

2  
4  
6  
8  
10  
12  
14  
16  
18  
20  
22  
24  
26  
28  
30  
32  
34  
36  
38  
40  
42

DATE: 9/6/96

(Filing No. H-942 )

Reproduced and distributed under the direction of the Clerk of the House.

**STATE OF MAINE  
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES  
117TH LEGISLATURE  
SECOND SPECIAL SESSION**

HOUSE AMENDMENT "A" to S.P. 777, "Joint Order Granting the Joint Standing Committee on Health and Human Services the Authority to Act as an Investigating Committee"

Amend the joint order by striking out all of the last 2 paragraphs and inserting in their place the following:

**WHEREAS**, the Joint Standing Committee on Health and Human Services has not been able to fully study the circumstances that led up to the tragic events in Waterville and at the Augusta Mental Health Institute because of an inability to obtain records and access to persons who could speak with the committee; and

**WHEREAS**, delegation to the Joint Standing Committee on Health and Human Services of power to administer oaths, issue subpoenas and take depositions in connection with its study of these events will assist the committee in the performance of its duties; now, therefore, be it

**ORDERED**, the House concurring, that the Legislature delegates to the Joint Standing Committee on Health and Human Services, pursuant to the Maine Revised Statutes, Title 3, section 165 and Title 3, chapter 21, subchapter II, the power to administer oaths, issue subpoenas and take depositions in connection with the committee's study of the recent death at the Augusta Mental Health Institute of Wrendy Hayne and the recent deaths in Waterville of 2 Sisters of the Blessed Sacrament. The scope, subject matter and conduct of the study are governed as follows.

**HOUSE AMENDMENT**

R. 48

HOUSE AMENDMENT "A" to S.P. 777

2  
4  
6  
8  
10  
12  
14  
16  
18  
20  
22  
24  
26  
28  
30  
32  
34  
36  
38  
40  
42  
44  
46  
48  
50

1. The study is limited to investigation of the deaths of Wrendy Hayne and the 2 Sisters of the Blessed Sacrament for the following purposes:

A. Determining whether mental health services are being appropriately provided to persons in need of those services; and

B. Overseeing the operation and administration of the Department of Mental Health, Mental Retardation and Substance Abuse Services, the Augusta Mental Health Institute and the agencies contracting to provide services to the department.

2. The committee shall keep a transcript of all proceedings and shall make copies available as required in Title 3, chapter 21, subchapter II.

3. The committee shall, in all of its proceedings and in the handling of all materials submitted to the committee, maintain the confidentiality of all materials protected by confidentiality granted by law, privilege or court order.

4. The committee shall retain independent legal counsel and such other staff as it determines are required.

5. The committee may commence the study on or after September 11, 1996 and shall complete the study and draft its recommended legislation by December 1, 1996; and be it further

**ORDERED**, that the Legislature grants to the Joint Standing Committee on Health and Human Services all the powers and authority of a legislative investigating committee as provided under Title 3, section 165 and Title 3, chapter 21; and be it further

**ORDERED**, that the Joint Standing Committee on Health and Human Services shall submit a report on its study and any recommendations for legislative action to the 118th Legislature no later than December 1, 1996.'

**SUMMARY**

This amendment provides limitations on the power of the Joint Standing Committee on Health and Human Services in the conduct of its study of the mental health system by limiting the study to an investigation of the deaths of Wrendy Hayne and the 2

**HOUSE AMENDMENT**

A 4 8

HOUSE AMENDMENT "A" to S.P. 777

2 Sisters of the Blessed Sacrament. It specifically requires the  
retention of independent legal counsel and allows the hiring of  
4 other staff as necessary, and requires a report by December 1,  
1996 to the 118th Legislature.

6

8

SPONSORED BY:   
(Representative MADORE)

10

TOWN: Augusta

12