

# MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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# 118th MAINE LEGISLATURE

## FIRST REGULAR SESSION-1997

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Legislative Document

No. 105

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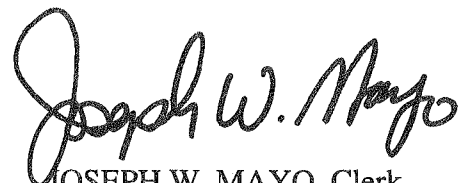
H.P. 80

House of Representatives, January 9, 1997

**Resolve, to Create a Task Force to Study the Adequacy of the Laws  
Regarding Involuntary Commitment.**

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Reference to the Committee on Judiciary suggested and ordered printed.

  
JOSEPH W. MAYO, Clerk

Presented by Representative WINGLASS of Auburn.  
Cosponsored by Representatives: ETNIER of Harpswell, JONES of Bar Harbor, JOY of  
Crystal, MARVIN of Cape Elizabeth, Senators: BENOIT of Franklin, PINGREE of Knox.

2           **Sec. 1. Task force established. Resolved:** That there is created  
the Task Force to Study the Adequacy of the Laws Regarding  
4           Involuntary Commitment, referred to in this resolve as the "task  
force"; and be it further

6           **Sec. 2. Membership. Resolved:** That the task force consists  
of 9 members, appointed as follows:

8  
10           1. One member from the Office of the Attorney General,  
appointed by the Governor;

12           2. One member from the Department of Mental Health, Mental  
Retardation and Substance Abuse Services, appointed by the  
14           Governor;

16           3. Three members that are either psychiatrists or  
psychologists, one member appointed by the Governor, one member  
18           appointed by the President of the Senate and one member appointed  
by the Speaker of the House of Representatives;

20           4. Two members representing lawyers from the private  
22           sector, one member appointed by the President of the Senate and  
one member appointed by the Speaker of the House of  
24           Representatives; and

26           5. Two members who are providers of mental health services,  
one member appointed by the President of the Senate and one  
28           member appointed by the Speaker of the House of Representatives;  
and be it further

30           **Sec. 3. Appointments. Resolved:** That all appointments must be  
32           made no later than 30 days following the effective date of this  
resolve. The appointing authorities shall notify the Executive  
34           Director of the Legislative Council upon making their  
appointments. When the appointment of all members is complete,  
36           the Chair of the Legislative Council shall call and convene the  
first meeting of the task force no later than October 15, 1997.  
38           The task force shall select a chair from among its members; and  
be it further

40           **Sec. 4. Duties. Resolved:** That the task force shall examine the  
42           involuntary commitment procedures for persons with mental illness  
who exhibit dangerous or violent behavior. In examining this  
44           issue, the task force shall review involuntary commitment  
procedures that are employed by other states; and be it further

46           **Sec. 5. Staff assistance. Resolved:** That the task force shall  
48           request staffing and clerical assistance from the Legislative  
Council; and be it further

