

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)

DATE: *May 27, 1997*

(Filing No. S-334)

HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES

Reported by: *Senator Paradis*

Reproduced and distributed under the direction of the Secretary of the Senate.

STATE OF MAINE
SENATE
118TH LEGISLATURE
FIRST SPECIAL SESSION

COMMITTEE AMENDMENT "A" to S.P. 579, L.D. 1744, Bill, "An Act to Establish Acute Crisis Stabilization Beds for Children in this State"

Amend the bill by striking out the title and substituting the following:

'Resolve, to Plan for Services for Children with Mental Health Needs'

Further amend the bill by striking out everything after the enacting clause and before the summary and inserting in its place the following:

'Sec. 1. Comprehensive plan. Resolved: That the Department of Mental Health, Mental Retardation and Substance Abuse Services, referred to in this section as the "department," in consultation with the Department of Corrections, the Department of Education and the Department of Human Services, shall design a comprehensive system of services for children with mental health needs to ensure that children receive services in the least restrictive and most appropriate settings. The system must provide for the reinvestment into children's mental health services of any savings achieved by switching from more expensive to less expensive means of delivering services. The department shall consult with providers, including psychiatrists and psychologists, and consumers and families of consumers of children's mental health services.

1. Plan development. The department shall define children's mental health services and assign areas of responsibility and accountability for providing children's mental health services.

COMMITTEE AMENDMENT

2 **2. Review of services.** The department shall review
existing children's mental health services and the expenditures
4 for those services by the department and the Department of
Human Services.
6

8 **3. Analysis of need.** The department shall analyze the
current need for children's mental health services and any gaps
and duplications in service delivery.
10

12 **4. Study contracting.** The department shall study
contracting with public and private agencies and providers for
the delivery of children's mental health services.
14

16 **5. Design a system.** The department shall design a system
for delivering children's mental health services, including a
safety net of services for those most in need.
18

20 **6. Develop recommendations.** The department shall develop
recommendations, including statutory and budgetary changes,
necessary to achieve the system designed under subsection 5.
22

24 **7. Report.** By December 15, 1997, the department shall
submit a comprehensive plan for the delivery of children's mental
health services to the Joint Standing Committee on Health and
26 Human Services; and be it further

28 **Sec. 2. Medicaid rules. Resolved:** That in order to establish
gatekeeper functions and responsibilities for the delivery of
30 children's mental health services, within 30 days of the
effective date of this resolve the Department of Mental Health,
32 Mental Retardation and Substance Abuse Services and the
Department of Human Services shall review current Medicaid rules
34 for children's mental health services and shall adopt new rules
consistent with the goal of providing a comprehensive network of
36 children's services in the least restrictive and most appropriate
settings; and be it further
38

40 **Sec. 3. Progress report meetings. Resolved:** That the Department
of Mental Health, Mental Retardation and Substance Abuse Services
and the Department of Human Services shall meet on a monthly
42 basis with a subcommittee of the Joint Standing Committee on
Health and Human Services before the Second Regular Session of
44 the 118th Legislature to report on the progress of the
departments in designing a comprehensive system for the delivery
46 of children's mental health services and designating gatekeeper
responsibilities and functions.
48

50 Further amend the bill by inserting at the end before the
summary the following:

2

FISCAL NOTE

4

The Legislature will require additional General Fund appropriations in fiscal year 1997-98 for the per diem and expense costs related to a subcommittee of the Joint Standing Committee on Health and Human Services holding monthly meetings to discuss the progress of the design of the comprehensive system. The amounts required can not be determined since the number of legislative subcommittee members and the number of meetings that will be held are not known.

12

The General Fund cost associated with requiring the Department of Human Services and the Department of Mental Health, Mental Retardation and Substance Abuse Services to adopt new Medicaid rules to provide a gatekeeper function and a comprehensive network of children's mental health services can not be determined at this time.

20

The additional costs associated with developing and reporting on a plan for a comprehensive system of services for children with mental health needs can be absorbed by the Department of Mental Health, Mental Retardation and Substance Abuse Services, the Department of Human Services, the Department of Corrections and the Department of Education utilizing existing budgeted resources.'

28

SUMMARY

30

This amendment replaces the bill. It requires the Department of Corrections, the Department of Education, the Department of Human Services and the Department of Mental Health, Mental Retardation and Substance Abuse Services to work together to design a comprehensive plan for the delivery of children's mental health services. It requires the Department of Human Services and the Department of Mental Health, Mental Retardation and Substance Abuse Services to adopt changes in the Medicaid rules to establish a gatekeeper for children's mental health services and to report periodically to a subcommittee of the Joint Standing Committee on Health and Human Services on their progress. The amendment also adds a fiscal note to the bill.

42