

MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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L.D. 1975

DATE: 3-12-98

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HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES

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**STATE OF MAINE
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
118TH LEGISLATURE
SECOND REGULAR SESSION**

COMMITTEE AMENDMENT "A" to H.P. 1411, L.D. 1975, "Resolve, to Provide Support and Assistance to Persons with Eating Disorders"

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

'Resolve, to Establish the Commission on Eating Disorders'

Further amend the resolve by striking out everything after the title and before the summary and inserting in its place the following:

'Emergency preamble. Whereas, Acts and resolves of the Legislature do not become effective until 90 days after adjournment unless enacted as emergencies; and

Whereas, eating disorders affect a significant number of Maine citizens and their families, endangering the health and happiness of our citizens and their families; and

Whereas, it is in the interest of the State to begin a study commission on eating disorders in a timely manner so that the commission can address the issue thoroughly; and

Whereas, emergency legislation is needed to begin the eating disorders study promptly; and

Whereas, the study must be initiated before the 90-day period expires in order that the study may be completed and a report submitted in time for the next legislative session; and

COMMITTEE AMENDMENT

Whereas, in the judgment of the Legislature, these facts create an emergency within the meaning of the Constitution of Maine and require the following legislation as immediately necessary for the preservation of the public peace, health and safety; now, therefore, be it

Sec. 1. Commission established. Resolved: That the Commission on Eating Disorders, referred to in this resolve as the "commission," is established to study and propose methods of providing education, prevention services and support to persons with eating disorders and their families; and be it further

Sec. 2. Membership. Resolved: That the commission consists of 19 members appointed as follows:

A. The Commissioner of Mental Health, Mental Retardation and Substance Abuse Services or the commissioner's designee, the Commissioner of Human Services or the commissioner's designee and the Commissioner of Education or the commissioner's designee; and

B. The following members appointed by the President of the Senate: one person who has the eating disorder anorexia, one family member of a person with an eating disorder, one person representing college student health interests, one member of the Joint Standing Committee on Health and Human Services and 4 persons who have experience caring for persons with eating disorders representing each of the following professions: clinical professional counselors, psychiatrists, social workers and family health care providers; and

C. The following members appointed by the Speaker of the House of Representatives: one person who has the eating disorder bulimia, one health educator or school nurse, one person representing public health policy issues, 2 members of the Joint Standing Committee on Health and Human Services, one from each major political party, and 3 persons who have experience caring for persons with eating disorders representing each of the following professions: psychiatric clinical nurse specialists, psychologists and dietitians; and be it further

Sec. 3. Appointments; meetings. Resolved: That all appointments must be made no later than 30 days following the effective date of this resolve. The Executive Director of the Legislative Council must be notified by all appointing authorities once the selections have been made. When the appointment of all members has been completed, the Chair of the Legislative Council shall call and convene the first meeting of

the commission no later than May 30, 1998. The commission shall select a legislative member as chair; and be it further

Sec. 4. Duties. Resolved: That the commission shall study methods of providing education, prevention services and support to persons with eating disorders and their families. The commission shall gather information on the extent of eating disorders in the State and the community and statewide resources available to persons with disorders and their families. The commission shall gather information on eating disorders and shall study the need for education and information for the public, public officials and professionals working in health care. The commission shall study the need for a permanent advisory committee on eating disorders. The commission shall make a report in accordance with section 7; and be it further

Sec. 5. Staff assistance. Resolved: That the Department of Mental Health, Mental Retardation and Substance Abuse Services shall provide staffing and clerical assistance to the commission; and be it further

Sec. 6. Reimbursement. Resolved: That the commission members who are legislators are entitled to receive the legislative per diem, as defined in the Maine Revised Statutes, Title 3, section 2, for each day's attendance at meetings of the commission and reimbursement for travel and other necessary expenses, upon application to the Legislative Council. The Executive Director of the Legislative Council shall administer the commission's budget. Nonlegislator members serve on a voluntary basis; and be it further

Sec. 7. Report. Resolved: That the commission shall submit its report with any recommendations and accompanying legislation to the joint standing committee of the legislature having jurisdiction over health and human services matters and may submit legislation to the First Regular Session of the 119th Legislature by January 1, 1999. The commission may request an extension of the reporting date from the Legislative Council if it finds that it is unable to complete its work by January 1, 1999; and be it further

Sec. 8. Appropriation. Resolved: That the following funds are appropriated from the General Fund to carry out the purposes of this resolve.

	1997-98	1998-99
LEGISLATURE		
Commission on Eating Disorders		

2	Personal Services	\$440	\$1,540
	All Other	400	1,400
4			
6	Provides funds for the per diem and expenses of legislative members of the Commission on Eating Disorders.		
8			
10			
12	LEGISLATURE		
	TOTAL	<u>\$840</u>	<u>\$2,940</u>

14 **Emergency clause.** In view of the emergency cited in the preamble, this resolve takes effect when approved.'

16 Further amend the resolve by inserting at the end before the summary the following:

20 **FISCAL NOTE**

22		1997-98	1998-99
24			
26	APPROPRIATIONS/ALLOCATIONS		
28	General Fund	\$840	\$2,940

30 The Legislature will require additional General Fund appropriations of \$840 and \$2,940 in fiscal years 1997-98 and 32 1998-99, respectively, for the per diem and expenses of legislative members of the Commission on Eating Disorders.

34 The additional costs associated with serving on the Commission on Eating Disorders can be absorbed by the Department of Mental Health, Mental Retardation and Substance Abuse Services, the Department of Human Services and the Department of Education utilizing existing budgeted resources.'

40 **SUMMARY**

42 This amendment replaces the resolve. It establishes the Commission on Eating Disorders, a 19-member commission charged with reporting to the joint standing committee having jurisdiction over health and human services matters by January 1, 46 1999. It adds a fiscal note and appropriates funds for reimbursements and per diems for legislative members.