

MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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L.D.

DATE: 5-5-99

(Filing No. H- 466)

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STATE OF MAINE
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
119TH LEGISLATURE
FIRST REGULAR SESSION

COMMITTEE AMENDMENT "A" to H.P. 1052, "Joint Study Order Establishing a Commission to Examine the Adequacy of Services at the Togus Veterans Administration Medical Center"

Amend the joint study order by striking out everything after the 2nd WHEREAS paragraph and inserting in its place the following:

'ORDERED, the Senate concurring, that the Joint Select Committee to Examine Adequacy of Services at the Togus Veterans Administration Medical Center is established as follows.

1. **Commission established.** The Joint Select Committee to Examine the Adequacy of Services at the Togus Veterans Administration Medical Center, referred to in this order as the "committee," is established.

2. **Membership.** The committee consists of 18 members as follows:

A. All of the members of the Joint Standing Committee on Legal and Veterans Affairs;

B. One representative from each of Maine's 4 congressional offices, invited jointly by the President of the Senate and the Speaker of the House of Representatives; and

C. One representative from the Office of the Governor, invited jointly by the President of the Senate and the Speaker of the House.

3. **Appointments; chair.** All appointments and invitations must be made no later than 30 days following the passage of this order. The President of the Senate and the Speaker of the House shall notify the Executive Director of the Legislative Council upon making their appointments and invitations. When the membership is complete, the Chair of the Legislative Council shall call and convene the first meeting of the committee no later than June 1, 1999. The committee shall select a chair from among its legislative members.

4. **Duties.** The committee shall examine:

A. Services provided to veterans by the Togus Veterans Administration Medical Center and the adequacy of those services to meet the needs of the veterans;

B. Funding provided to the medical center and the adequacy of those funds in providing necessary services to the veterans;

C. The possibility of the medical center being operated under partial receivership; and

D. Other issues the committee may determine relevant to the operation of the medical center.

5. **Staff assistance.** Upon approval of the Legislative Council, the Office of Policy and Legal Analysis shall provide necessary staffing services to the committee.

6. **Compensation.** Legislative members of the committee are entitled to receive the legislative per diem, as defined in the Maine Revised Statutes, Title 3, section 2, and reimbursement for travel and other necessary expenses for attendance at meetings of the committee.

7. **Report.** The committee shall submit a report along with any recommended legislation to the Second Regular Session of the 119th Legislature by December 31, 1999. If the committee requires an extension of the reporting deadline, it may apply to the Legislative Council, which may grant the extension.'

SUMMARY

This amendment amends the original joint study order by adding a section on staff assistance. It also revises the format of the order to conform with the current legislative study committee guidelines.