

MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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119th MAINE LEGISLATURE

FIRST REGULAR SESSION-1999

Legislative Document

No. 442

H.P. 326

House of Representatives, January 14, 1999

**Resolve, to Create a Study Group to Prepare Pharmaceutical Guidelines
for Geriatric Residents in Long-term Care Settings.**

Reference to the Committee on Health and Human Services suggested and ordered printed.

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Joseph W. Mayo".

JOSEPH W. MAYO, Clerk

Presented by Representative COWGER of Hallowell.
Cosponsored by Senator GOLDTHWAIT of Hancock and
Representatives: BROOKS of Winterport, COLWELL of Gardiner, FULLER of Manchester,
GAGNON of Waterville, HATCH of Skowhegan, LEMOINE of Old Orchard Beach, O'NEIL
of Saco, POVICH of Ellsworth.

2 **Preamble. Whereas,** significant quantities of pharmaceuticals
are used in the treatment of geriatric residents in long-term
care settings; and

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6 **Whereas,** it is important to the residents and to the State
that pharmaceuticals are used properly and economically; and

8 **Whereas,** guidelines for the use of pharmaceuticals for
geriatric patients can assist administrators and service
10 providers in making decisions about pharmaceuticals for that
population; now, therefore, be it

12
14 **Sec. 1. Study group to develop and recommend guidelines for use of
pharmaceuticals. Resolved:** That the Department of Human Services
shall form a study group to develop and recommend guidelines for
16 the use of pharmaceuticals to treat geriatric patients. The
study group must include physicians, medical directors,
18 administrators, nurses and consultant pharmacists who practice in
long-term care facilities. The purpose of the guidelines is to
20 enhance the ability of health care practitioners to provide
appropriate drug therapy in the most cost-effective manner. The
22 study group shall review existing pharmaceutical care guidelines
in other states and Canada in formulating the guidelines; and be
24 it further

26 **Sec. 2. Department of Human Services to provide staffing.
Resolved:** That the Department of Human Services shall provide
28 staff assistance to the study group. The study group may meet as
often as it considers necessary to perform its duties. The study
30 group shall solicit input from interested parties; and be it
further

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34 **Sec. 3. Guidelines to be developed by March 1, 2000. Resolved:**
That the study group shall develop the guidelines by March 1,
2000 and shall present a copy of the guidelines to the Joint
36 Standing Committee on Health and Human Services. The study group
shall also disseminate and encourage use of the guidelines to
38 administrators and service providers who work with geriatric
patients.

42 **SUMMARY**

44 This resolve directs the Department of Human Services to
form a study group to develop guidelines for the use of
46 pharmaceuticals to treat geriatric patients.