

MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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119th MAINE LEGISLATURE

FIRST REGULAR SESSION-1999

Legislative Document

No. 956

H.P. 689

House of Representatives, February 3, 1999

**Resolve, to Implement the Recommendations of the Task Force to Study
Strategies to Support Parents as Children's First Teachers.**

Reference to the Committee on Education and Cultural Affairs suggested and ordered printed.

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

JOSEPH W. MAYO, Clerk

Presented by Representative BAKER of Bangor.
Cosponsored by President LAWRENCE of York and
Representatives: BRENNAN of Portland, MURPHY of Kennebunk, ROWE of Portland,
STEDMAN of Hartland, TOWNSEND of Portland, Senators: AMERO of Cumberland,
CATHCART of Penobscot, PARADIS of Aroostook.

2 **Sec. 1. Home visiting services to parents. Resolved:** That the
Department of Human Services shall expand home visiting services
4 to the parents of all newborn children in the State, if the
parents desire the services, beginning January 1, 2000, until
6 those children attain the age of 5 years; and be it further

8 **Sec. 2. Course of study in parenting education. Resolved:** That
the Department of Education shall include a course of study in
10 parenting education in school curricula from elementary school
through high school that includes child development,
12 understanding early brain development, including information
about brain development in children who are 5 years of age or
14 under, and the responsibilities of parenting. The course of
study must be included in curricula for both career preparation
16 and health education and this course of study must be included in
the learning results assessment of students; and be it further

18 **Sec. 3. Deadline for appointment of additional members to Task
Force on Early Care and Education. Resolved:** That, notwithstanding
20 Resolve 1997, chapter 68, section 2, the 2 additional members of
the Task Force on Early Care and Education appointed pursuant to
22 this resolve must be appointed no later than 30 days after the
effective date of this resolve; and be it further

24 **Sec. 4. Resolve 1997, c. 68, §§1 and 2, amended. Resolved:** That
26 Resolve 1997, c. 68, §§ 1 and 2 are amended to read:

28 **Sec. 1. Task force established. Resolved:** That the Task Force to
~~Study Strategies to Support Parents as Children's First Teachers~~
30 on Early Care and Education, referred to in this resolve as the
"task force," is established to investigate ways to determine the
32 most efficient and effective strategies to support parents as
children's first and most influential teachers; and be it further

34 **Sec. 2. Membership. Resolved:** That the task force consists
36 of ~~16~~ 18 members as follows:

- 38 1. ~~Two~~ Four Legislators jointly appointed by the President
of the Senate and the Speaker of the House;
- 40 2. The Commissioner of Education, or a designee;
- 42 3. The Commissioner of Human Services, or a designee;
- 44 4. The Commissioner of Mental Health, Mental Retardation
46 and Substance Abuse Services, or a designee;

2 The resolve also changes the name of the task force to the
"Task Force on Early Care and Education." It directs the task
4 force to monitor the development of the process that supports
home visiting programs by the Department of Human Services and
6 the development of a course of study in parenting education by
the Department of Education and to further study the needs of and
8 for family resource centers. The resolve adds 2 more members who
are Legislators to the task force and extends the life of the
10 task force until January 15, 2001.