

MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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L.D. 1169

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DATE: April 8, 1999

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HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES

Reported by:

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**STATE OF MAINE
SENATE
119TH LEGISLATURE
FIRST REGULAR SESSION**

COMMITTEE AMENDMENT " A " to S.P. 390, L.D. 1169, Bill, "An Act to Improve the Accountability of the Maine Children's Trust and to Explicitly Include High-quality Child Care as an Integral Part of its Mission"

Amend the bill in section 4 in subsection 5 in the 5th line (page 1, line 32 in L.D.) by striking out the following: "applicants" and inserting in its place the following: 'applicants who have allowed their names to be placed on the list'

Further amend the bill by inserting after section 4 the following:

'Sec. 5. Study committee. There is established the Maine Children's Trust Study Committee, referred to in this section as the "committee," to review the Maine Children's Trust, Incorporated, referred to in this section as the "trust."

1. Membership. The President of the Senate shall appoint 2 Senators, one from each major political party, one of whom is a member of the Joint Standing Committee on Health and Human Services and one of whom is a member of the Joint Standing Committee on Taxation. The Speaker of the House of Representatives shall appoint 3 Representatives, at least one from each major political party, 2 of whom are members of the Joint Standing Committee on Health and Human Services and one of whom is a member of the Joint Standing Committee on Taxation. The first-named Senator is the Senate chair and the first-named Representative is the House chair. All appointments must be made within 30 days following the effective date of this Act. The appointing authorities shall notify the Executive Director of the Legislative Council upon making their appointments.

COMMITTEE AMENDMENT

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COMMITTEE AMENDMENT " A " to S.P. 390, L.D. 1169

2 **2. Meetings.** When the appointment of all members of the
committee is complete, the chairs shall call the first meeting,
which must take place no later than October 10, 1999. The
4 committee may meet 4 times.

6 **3. Duties.** The committee shall review the mission,
performance and accountability of the trust. The committee shall
8 report to the Joint Standing Committee on Health and Human
Services the results of the study, including any recommendations
10 for change, by December 1, 1999. If the committee requires an
extension of time to make its report, it may apply to the
12 Legislative Council, which may grant the extension.

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

18 **5. Reimbursement.** Committee members are entitled to
legislative per diem, as defined in the Maine Revised Statutes,
20 Title 3, section 2, and reimbursement of necessary expenses for
their attendance at authorized meetings of the committee.

22 **6. Committee budget.** The chairs of the committee, with
24 assistance from committee staff, shall administer the committee's
budget. Within 10 days after its first meeting, the committee
26 shall present a work plan and proposed budget to the Legislative
Council for its approval. The committee may not incur expenses
28 that would result in the committee exceeding its approved
budget. Upon request from the committee, the Executive Director
30 of the Legislative Council or the designee of the executive
director shall provide the committee chairs and staff with a
32 status report on the committee's budget, expenditures incurred
and paid and available funds.

34 **Sec. 6. Appropriation.** The following funds are appropriated
36 from the General Fund to carry out the purposes of this Act.

38 **1999-00**

40 **LEGISLATURE**

42 **Maine Children's Trust Study**
44 **Committee**

46	Personal Services	\$1,100
	All Other	1,500

COMMITTEE AMENDMENT

COMMITTEE AMENDMENT "A" to S.P. 390, L.D. 1169

2 Provides funds for the per diem and expenses
of the legislative members of the Maine
4 Children's Trust Study Committee.

6 **LEGISLATURE**
TOTAL

\$2,600'

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

12 **FISCAL NOTE**

14 **1999-00**

16 **APPROPRIATIONS/ALLOCATIONS**

18 General Fund **\$2,600**

20 This bill expands the definition of prevention programs,
22 under the Maine Children's Trust, to include the promotion of
high-quality child care and it requires that the names of both
24 the successful and unsuccessful applicants for the trust's grants
be submitted to the Legislature with the applicants' permission.

26 The funding for the Maine Children's Trust, Incorporated is
provided by an income tax checkoff, federal grants and contracts,
28 privately donated funds and in-kind donations. The fiscal impact
of this legislation can not be determined at this time.

30 This bill includes an additional General Fund appropriation
32 to the Legislature in the amount of \$2,600 in fiscal year 1999-00
for the per diem and expenses of legislative members of the Maine
34 Children's Trust Study Committee.

36 The additional costs associated with providing staffing
assistance to the study committee during the interim between
38 legislative sessions can be absorbed by the Legislature utilizing
existing budgeted resources. If an extension of the reporting
40 deadline is granted and the study committee requires staffing
assistance during the legislative session, the Legislature may
42 require an additional General Fund appropriation to contract for
staff services.'

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COMMITTEE AMENDMENT " A " to S.P. 390, L.D. 1169

SUMMARY

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This amendment is the majority report of the Joint Standing Committee on Health and Human Services. It clarifies that information about applicants to the Maine Children's Trust would be made public only with the applicants' permission. It adds a study commission to review the mission, performance and accountability of the trust. It also adds an appropriation section and a fiscal note to the bill.