

# MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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R. of S.

L.D. 1296

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DATE: 4-1-99

(Filing No. H-146)

**HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES**

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

COMMITTEE AMENDMENT "A" to H.P. 918, L.D. 1296, "Resolve, to Create the Task Force to Explore Alternative Payment Mechanisms for Dental Health Care"

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

**Sec. 1. Task force established. Resolved:** That the Task Force to Explore Alternative Payment Mechanisms for Dental Health Care, referred to in this resolve as the "task force," is established; and be it further

**Sec. 2. Membership. Resolved:** That the task force consists of 8 members as follows:

1. Two Legislators, one from each of the 2 major political parties, appointed as follows:

A. One Senator, who serves as Senate chair, appointed by the President of the Senate; and

B. One member of the House of Representatives, who serves as House chair, appointed by the Speaker of the House;

2. One member of the public, appointed by the President of the Senate;

3. One representative of Maine community health centers, appointed by the Speaker of the House from a list submitted by the Maine Ambulatory Care Coalition;

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2           4. The Commissioner of Human Services or the commissioner's  
designee;

4           5. The Superintendent of Insurance or the superintendent's  
designee; and

6  
8           6. Two persons representing a statewide dental association,  
appointed by the Governor; and be it further

10           **Sec. 3. Appointments; meetings. Resolved:** That all  
12 appointments must be made no later than 30 days following the  
effective date of this Act. The appointing authorities shall  
14 notify the Executive Director of the Legislative Council upon  
making their appointments. When the appointment of all members  
16 is complete, the chairs shall call and convene the first meeting  
of the task force no later than August 1, 1999; and be it further

18           **Sec. 4. Duties. Resolved:** That the task force shall study  
20 alternative payment mechanisms for dental health care, including  
voucher systems, copayments and other mechanisms that allow for  
22 fair compensation for a dentist while reducing the amount of  
paperwork, and administration of the payment process; and be it  
24 further

26           **Sec. 5. Staff assistance. Resolved:** That the Office of Policy  
and Legal Analysis shall provide staffing assistance to the task  
28 force; and be it further

30           **Sec. 6. Reimbursement. Resolved:** That the task force members  
who are Legislators are entitled to receive the legislative per  
32 diem, as defined in the Maine Revised Statutes, Title 3, section  
2, for each day's attendance at meetings of the task force.  
34 Public members not otherwise compensated by their employers or  
other entities are entitled to receive a per diem equal to the  
36 legislative per diem for attendance at authorized meetings of the  
task force. All members of the task force are entitled to  
38 reimbursement for travel and other necessary expenses upon  
application to the Legislative Council. The Executive Director  
of the Legislative Council shall administer the task force's  
40 budget; and be it further

42           **Sec. 7. Report. Resolved:** That the task force shall submit  
its report with any accompanying legislation to the Joint  
44 Standing Committee on Health and Human Services by December 1,  
1999. If the task force requires an extension of time to  
46 conclude its work and make its report, it may apply to the  
Legislative Council, which may grant the extension. Upon  
48 submission of its required reports and legislation, the work of  
the task force terminates; and be it further

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

1999-00

LEGISLATURE

Task Force to Explore Alternative Payment Mechanisms for Dental Health Care

Personal Services \$1,320
All Other 1,700

Provides funds for the per diem and expenses of legislative and other eligible members of the Task Force to Explore Alternative Payment Mechanisms for Dental Health Care.

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TOTAL \$3,020'

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

FISCAL NOTE

1999-00

APPROPRIATIONS/ALLOCATIONS

General Fund \$3,020

This resolve includes an additional General Fund appropriation to the Legislature in the amount of \$3,020 in fiscal year 1999-00 for the per diem and expenses of legislative and other eligible members of the Task Force to Explore Alternative Payment Mechanisms for Dental Health Care.

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

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2 The Department of Human Services and the Department of  
Professional and Financial Regulation will incur some minor  
4 additional costs to participate as members of the task force.  
These costs can be absorbed within the departments' existing  
6 budgeted resources.'

8 **SUMMARY**

10 This amendment adds details to the establishment of the Task  
Force to Explore Alternative Payment Mechanisms for Dental Health  
12 Care and adds to the task force a representative of Maine  
community health centers. It adds an appropriation section and a  
14 fiscal note to the resolve.

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