

MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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119th MAINE LEGISLATURE

FIRST REGULAR SESSION-1999

Legislative Document

No. 1296

H.P. 918

House of Representatives, February 16, 1999

**Resolve, to Create the Task Force to Explore Alternative Payment
Mechanisms for Dental Health Care.**

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 MARVIN of Cape Elizabeth.
Cosponsored by Senator PARADIS of Aroostook and
Representatives: BROOKS of Winterport, GAGNON of Waterville, MAYO of Bath, QUINT
of Portland, SNOWE-MELLO of Poland.

2 **Sec. 1. Task force established. Resolved:** That the Task Force to
Explore Alternative Payment Mechanisms for Dental Health Care,
4 referred to in this resolve as the "task force," is established
to explore payment mechanisms for dental health care different
6 from the existing Medicaid reimbursement program; and be it
further

8 **Sec. 2. Membership; expenses. Resolved:** That this task force
is composed of 7 members:

10 1. The Commissioner of Human Services or the commissioner's
12 designee;

14 2. The Superintendent of Insurance or the superintendent's
16 designee;

18 3. One Senator appointed by the President of the Senate;

20 4. One member of the House of Representatives appointed by
the Speaker of the House of Representatives;

22 5. Two members of the Maine Dental Association appointed by
the Governor; and

24 6. One layperson appointed by the Governor.

26
Each member of the task force is entitled to receive compensation
28 equal to the legislative per diem and reimbursement of necessary
expenses in performing the duties as a member of the task force;
30 and be it further

32 **Sec. 3. Duties; responsibilities. Resolved:** That the task force
may explore alternative payment mechanisms for dental health
34 care, including voucher systems, copayments or other mechanisms
that allow for fair compensation to a dentist while reducing the
36 amount of paperwork and administration of the payment process;
and be it further

38 **Sec. 4. Report. Resolved:** That the task force shall submit a
report to the Joint Standing Committee on Health and Human
40 Services by December 1, 1999 with its recommendations for
42 alternative payment mechanisms for dental health care and
recommendations for any necessary implementing legislation.

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SUMMARY

48 This resolve creates a task force of 7 members to study
payment mechanisms for dental health care different from the
50 existing Medicaid reimbursement system. The alternative payment

2 mechanisms may include voucher systems, copayments or other
mechanisms that allow for fair compensation to a dentist while
4 reducing the amount of paperwork and administration of the
payment process. The task force will report recommendations and
6 possible proposed legislation concerning alternative payment
mechanisms for dental health care to the Joint Standing Committee
on Health and Human Services by December 1, 1999.