

MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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119th MAINE LEGISLATURE

FIRST REGULAR SESSION-1999

Legislative Document

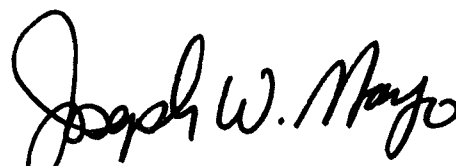
No. 2215

H.P. 1563

House of Representatives, April 23, 1999

**An Act to Implement the Recommendations of the Commission on
Eating Disorders.**

Reported by Representative KANE for the Joint Standing Committee on Health and
Human Services pursuant to Joint Order H.P. 1501.


JOSEPH W. MAYO, Clerk

2 **Be it enacted by the People of the State of Maine as follows:**

4 **Sec. 1. 22 MRSA §§258 and 259** are enacted to read:

6 **§258. Office of Eating Disorders**

8 There is established within the Bureau of Health, the Office
10 of Eating Disorders, referred to in this section as the
12 "office." The office is responsible for researching, planning,
14 facilitating, coordinating and developing information and
16 resources on eating disorders statewide.

18 1. Duties. The office shall conduct a comprehensive needs
20 assessment to identify unmet prevention needs and shall oversee
22 the assessment of training programs conducted under subsection
24 2. The office shall compile and disseminate to the public
26 information on eating disorders and coordinate the advertisement
28 and promotion of programs aimed at the prevention and treatment
30 of eating disorders.

32 2. Collaboration. With regard to information and resources
34 for training and education on eating disorders, the office shall
36 work with the Department of Mental Health, Mental Retardation and
38 Substance Abuse Services and the Department of Education to:

40 A. Conduct a comprehensive assessment of training available
42 to health professionals and the public in this State;

44 B. Create a data base of literature on prevention, early
46 detection and treatment;

48 C. Develop training strategies and opportunities for
community-based support group facilitators;

D. Offer technical assistance to community-based support
groups;

E. Explore methods of augmenting curricula in health
profession programs in postsecondary educational
institutions in this State;

F. Organize a statewide clinical training conference;

G. Identify agencies and programs that serve at-risk youth
and adults for the purposes of training on prevention, early
detection and referral strategies; and

H. Study the funding and creation of treatment options to
provide for unmet prevention needs.

2 **§259. Eating Disorders Advisory Board**

4 There is established the Eating Disorders Advisory Board,
6 referred to in this section as the "board," to advise the
 department on the work of the Office of Eating Disorders.

8 **1. Membership. The board consists of:**

10 A. One representative of the department, one representative
12 of the Department of Mental Health, Mental Retardation and
14 Substance Abuse Services and one representative of the
16 Department of Education, each of whom is appointed by the
18 commissioner of that person's department and all of whom
20 serve ex officio and without the authority to vote; and

22 B. The following persons appointed by the commissioner:

24 (1) Two members of the general public. Of the initial
26 appointees, one must be appointed for a 3-year term and
28 one for a 2-year term. All subsequent terms are 3-year
30 terms;

32 (2) Two advocates for persons with eating disorders.
34 Of the initial appointees one must be appointed for a
36 2-year term and one for a 1-year term. All subsequent
38 terms are 3-year terms;

40 (3) A mental health provider, appointed for a 3-year
42 term;

44 (4) A physical health provider. The initial appointee
46 serves a 1-year term. All subsequent terms are 3-year
48 terms;

50 (5) A health educator. The initial appointee serves a
 2-year term. All subsequent terms are 3-year terms; and

(6) Two family members of persons with eating
 disorders. Of the initial appointees, one serves a
 3-year term and one serves a 1-year term. All
 subsequent terms are 3-year terms.

2. Volunteer service. All board members serve on a
voluntary basis without reimbursement for expenses.

3. Chair; meetings. The board shall elect a chair from
among its members. The board shall meet 10 times per year.

Sec. 2. Report. The Office of Eating Disorders within the

2 Department of Human Services shall prepare and submit a report to
 3 the Joint Standing Committee on Health and Human Services by
 4 February 1, 2000, including recommendations for laws to regulate
 5 entities engaged in the business of selling products or services
 6 promoting weight loss, including weight loss products such as
 7 diuretics and laxatives and programs that have as a goal weight
 8 loss or maintenance of weight loss.

9 **Sec. 3. Appropriation.** The following funds are appropriated
 10 from the General Fund to carry out the purposes of this Act.

	1999-00	2000-01
14 HUMAN SERVICES, DEPARTMENT OF		
16 Office of Eating Disorders		
18 Positions - Legislative Count	(1,000)	(1,000)
19 Personal Services	\$31,893	\$44,177
20 All Other	12,750	9,250
22 Provides funding for a		
23 Director of the Office of		
24 Eating Disorders and related		
25 operating expenses.		
26		
28 DEPARTMENT OF HUMAN SERVICES		
TOTAL	\$44,643	\$53,427

30 **FISCAL NOTE**

32 This bill includes General Fund appropriations of \$44,643
 33 and \$53,427 in fiscal years 1999-00 and 2000-01, respectively,
 34 for the Department of Human Services to establish the Office of
 35 Eating Disorders.

36 **SUMMARY**

38 This bill contains provisions to implement the
 39 recommendations of the Commission on Eating Disorders. It
 40 includes establishing an Office of Eating Disorders in the
 41 Department of Human Services, establishing an Eating Disorders
 42 Advisory Board and requiring a report from the Office of Eating
 43 Disorders by February 1, 2000 to the Joint Standing Committee on
 44 Health and Human Services on laws to regulate businesses that
 45 sell products or services promoting weight loss. This bill
 46 contains an appropriation for one position within the Office of
 47 Eating Disorders of \$44,643 and \$53,427 for fiscal years 1999-00
 48 and 2000-01 for the Department of Human Services.