

MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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120th MAINE LEGISLATURE

FIRST REGULAR SESSION-2001

Legislative Document

No. 756

H.P. 601

House of Representatives, February 13, 2001

**An Act to Ensure Quality Home Care Coordination Services and
Improve Long-term Care Services.**

Reference to the Committee on Health and Human Services suggested and ordered printed.

Millicent M. MacFarland

MILLICENT M. MacFARLAND, Clerk

Presented by Representative KANE of Saco.
Cosponsored by Representatives: DUDLEY of Portland, FULLER of Manchester, O'NEIL of
Saco, SIMPSON of Auburn, Senator: LONGLEY of Waldo.

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

Sec. 1. 22 MRSA §5107-I is enacted to read:

§5107-I. Quality improvement committees

The department shall establish quality improvement committees, referred to in this section as "committees," to review the provision of home care services. The department shall require the participation of all contracting agencies that provide statewide coordinating services for consumers receiving home-based care, Medicaid waiver for home- and community-based care, adults with disabilities and private duty nursing services and any other program of home care for the elderly or disabled funded in whole or in part with state funds. The committee membership must also include representatives of consumers, consumer advocates, including the long-term care ombudsman program, health care and service providers and representatives from each area agency on aging.

1. Chair; meetings. The members of each committee shall choose a chair, who may not be a representative of the home care coordination agencies. Each committee must meet at least quarterly.

2. Duties. The duties of the committees include reviewing, evaluating and reporting on services provided to consumers of home care services. The services to be reviewed include care planning, implementation and modification, monitoring, assessments and reassessments, continuity of care and consumer information, advocacy and support services.

3. Annual report. By March 1st each year, each committee shall report to the department, the Long-term Care Steering Committee established pursuant to section 5107-B and the joint standing committee of the Legislature having jurisdiction over health and human services matters concerning the committee's work during the year, problems with the coordination of home care services and the actions taken to resolve problems.

4. Rulemaking. The department shall adopt rules to implement this section. Rules adopted pursuant to this section are routine technical rules as defined in Title 5, chapter 375, subchapter II-A.

Sec. 2. PL 1999, c. 731, Pt. BBBB, §15, first ¶ is amended to read:

Sec. BBBB-15. Establishment of the Long-term Care Implementation Committee.

There is established the Long-term Care Implementation Committee, referred to in this section as the "committee," to monitor the progress of state departments and offices in implementing the provisions of this Part and the State's long-term care system. The committee shall review the adoption and amendment of rules ~~performed~~ proposed in response to this Part and may make recommendations to the Department of Human Services, to the Department of Mental Health, Mental Retardation and Substance Abuse Services and to the joint standing committee of the Legislature having jurisdiction over health and human services matters ~~for~~ regarding amendments to those rules. The committee shall review the quality of care in the long-term care system.

SUMMARY

This bill establishes quality improvement committees for home care services for the elderly and disabled, which will include representatives of the home care agencies, consumers, consumer advocates, health care and service providers and representatives from each area agency on aging.

This bill directs the Long-term Care Implementation Committee, established in Public Law 1999, chapter 731, Part BBBB, section 15, to monitor the work of state departments pertaining to long-term care and directs the committee to review rules pertaining to long-term care and make recommendations to the Department of Human Services, the Department of Mental Health, Mental Retardation and Substance Abuse Services and the joint standing committee of the Legislature having jurisdiction over health and human services matters regarding amendments to those rules.