

MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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120th MAINE LEGISLATURE

FIRST REGULAR SESSION-2001

Legislative Document

No. 1085

S.P. 317

In Senate, February 22, 2001

Resolve, to Improve Staffing in Health Care Settings.

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

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Joy J. O'Brien".

JOY J. O'BRIEN
Secretary of the Senate

Presented by Senator PENDLETON of Cumberland.
Cosponsored by Representative FULLER of Manchester and
Senators: GOLDTHWAIT of Hancock, KILKELLY of Lincoln, RAND of Cumberland,
Representatives: ANDREWS of York, COLWELL of Gardiner, KANE of Saco, O'BRIEN of
Augusta, SCHNEIDER of Durham.

Sec. 1. Rulemaking. Resolved: That, by January 1, 2002, the
2 Department of Human Services shall amend its rules regarding the
licensing of health care facilities, including, but not limited
4 to, home care, acute care and long-term care settings;
residential care facilities; hospitals; and other health care
6 facilities to require staffing levels based on patient acuity
levels. The rules must base appropriate staffing for licensing
8 purposes on patient acuity levels as determined by a professional
nursing assessment done by a professional registered nurse of
10 patient physical, behavioral and psycho-social status and need
for health care. Rules adopted or amended pursuant to this
12 section are routine technical rules as defined in the Maine
Revised Statutes, Title 5, chapter 375, subchapter II-A.

SUMMARY

18 This resolve requires the Department of Human Services to
amend its rules regarding the licensing of health care
20 facilities, including, but not limited to, home care, acute care
and long-term care settings; residential care facilities;
22 hospitals; and other health care facilities to require staffing
levels based on patient acuity level. The rules must base
24 appropriate staffing for licensing purposes on patient acuity
level as determined by a professional nursing assessment done by
26 a professional registered nurse of patient physical, behavioral
and psycho-social status and need for health care. The rules,
28 which are routine technical rules, must be adopted by January 1,
2002.