

MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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**MAJORITY
BANKING AND INSURANCE**

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**STATE OF MAINE
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
120TH LEGISLATURE
FIRST REGULAR SESSION**

COMMITTEE AMENDMENT "A" to H.P. 1121, L.D. 1490, "Resolve, to Establish the Commission to Develop and Finance Health Care Coverage for All Maine People"

Amend the resolve by striking out all of section 2 and inserting in its place the following:

Sec. 2. Membership. Resolved: That the commission consists of 19 members appointed or designated as follows:

1. Seven members appointed by the President of the Senate as follows:

A. Two members of the Senate. When making these appointments the President of the Senate must give preference to a member serving on the Joint Standing Committee on Appropriations and Financial Affairs and to a member serving on the Joint Standing Committee on Taxation;

B. A member of a statewide organization representing insured health care consumers;

C. A member representing a statewide organization representing health maintenance organizations and health carriers;

D. A member of a statewide organization representing community health centers;

E. A member of the Medicaid Advisory Committee; and

F. A member of a statewide organization representing labor;

COMMITTEE AMENDMENT "A" to H.P. 1121, L.D. 1490

2. Seven members appointed by the Speaker of the House of Representatives as follows:

A. Two members of the House of Representatives. When making the appointments, the Speaker must give preference to a member serving on the Joint Standing Committee on Health and Human Services and to a member serving on the Joint Standing Committee on Banking and Insurance;

B. A member of a statewide organization representing elderly persons;

C. A member of a statewide organization representing small employers with fewer than 50 employees;

D. A member of a statewide organization representing people with disabilities;

E. A member of a statewide organization representing mental health providers; and

F. A member of a statewide organization representing uninsured health care consumers;

3. Three members appointed by the Governor as follows:

A. A member of a statewide organization representing hospitals;

B. A member of a statewide organization representing physicians; and

C. A member of a statewide organization representing employers; and

4. The following 2 members shall also serve on the commission:

A. The Commissioner of Human Services or the commissioner's designee; and

B. The Chair of the Governor's Year 2000 Blue Ribbon Commission on Health Care or the chair's designee; and be it further'

Further amend the bill in section 4 in the 4th line (page 3, line 8 in the L.D.) by inserting after the following: "employers" the following: ', particularly small employers,'

COMMITTEE AMENDMENT

Further amend the bill in section 10 in the last line (page 4, line 46 in L.D.) by striking out the following: "funds." and inserting in its place the following: 'funds; and be it further'

Further amend the bill by inserting after section 10 and before the emergency clause the following:

'Sec. 11. Appropriation. Resolved: That the following funds are appropriated from the General Fund to carry out the purposes of this resolve.

	2001-02	2002-03
LEGISLATURE		
Commission to Develop and Finance Health Care Coverage for All Maine People		
Personal Services	\$1,540	\$1,980
All Other	11,075	8,775
TOTAL	<u>\$12,615</u>	<u>\$10,755</u>

Provides funds for the per diem and expenses of legislative members and other eligible members of the Commission to Develop and Finance Health Care Coverage for All Maine People, to hold public hearings and to print the required report.'

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

FISCAL NOTE

	2001-02	2002-03
APPROPRIATIONS/ALLOCATIONS		
General Fund	\$12,615	\$10,755

The Legislature will require additional General Fund appropriations of \$12,615 in fiscal year 2001-02 and \$10,755 in fiscal year 2002-03 for the per diem and expenses of legislative

members and other eligible members of the Commission to Develop and Finance Health Care Coverage for All Maine People, to hold public hearings and to print the required report.

The additional costs associated with providing staffing assistance to the commission 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 commission requires staffing assistance during the legislative session, the Legislature may require an additional General Fund appropriation to contract for staff services.

The Department of Human Services will incur some minor additional costs to serve on the Commission to Develop and Finance Health Care Coverage for All Maine People and to provide staffing assistance as needed. These costs can be absorbed within the department's existing budgeted resources.'

SUMMARY

This amendment is the majority report of the committee. The amendment adds 2 members to the Commission to Develop and Finance Health Care Coverage for All Maine People: a member representing health maintenance organizations and health plans and a member representing small employers with fewer than 50 employees. The amendment deletes the reference to rural health centers and replaces it with the correct reference to community health centers. The amendment also clarifies that the duties of the commission include addressing ways to alleviate the burden of increasing costs on employers, particularly small employers.

The amendment also adds an appropriation section and a fiscal note to the bill.