

# MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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# 120th MAINE LEGISLATURE

## FIRST REGULAR SESSION-2001

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Legislative Document

No. 1625

H.P. 1203

House of Representatives, March 13, 2001

**Resolve, to Establish the Task Force to Examine Health Care Delivery  
Systems Within the State.**

(EMERGENCY)

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

*Millicent M. MacFarland*

MILLICENT M. MacFARLAND, Clerk

Presented by Representative TRAHAN of Waldoboro.

Cosponsored by Representative CRESSEY of Baldwin, Senator KILKELLY of Lincoln and Representatives: BROOKS of Winterport, DUGAY of Cherryfield, LOVETT of Scarborough, MAYO of Bath, NUTTING of Oakland, O'BRIEN of Augusta, O'NEIL of Saco, SHIELDS of Auburn.

2           **Emergency preamble.**   Whereas, Acts and resolves of the  
Legislature do not become effective until 90 days after  
adjournment unless enacted as emergencies; and

4  
6           **Whereas,** this legislation establishes the Task Force to  
Examine Health Care Delivery Systems within the State; and

8           **Whereas,** the study must be initiated before the 90-day  
period expires in order that the study may be completed and a  
report submitted in time for submission to the next legislative  
session; and

12           **Whereas,** in the judgment of the Legislature, these facts  
14 create an emergency within the meaning of the Constitution of  
Maine and require the following legislation as immediately  
16 necessary for the preservation of the public peace, health and  
safety; now, therefore, be it

18           **Sec. 1. Task force established. Resolved:** That the Task Force to  
20 Examine Health Care Delivery Systems within the State, referred  
to in this resolve as the "task force," is established; and be it  
22 further

24           **Sec. 2. Task force membership. Resolved:** That the task force  
consists of the following 10 members:

26           1. Two members of the Senate, one of whom is a member of  
28 the Joint Standing Committee on Banking and Insurance and one of  
whom is a member of the Joint Standing Committee on Health and  
30 Human Services, appointed by the President of the Senate;

32           2. Three members from the House of Representatives, 2 of  
whom are members of the Joint Standing Committee on Banking and  
34 Insurance and one of whom is a member of the Joint Standing  
Committee on Health and Human Services, appointed by the Speaker  
36 of the House;

38           3. One member who is a hospital administrator, appointed by  
the Speaker of the House;

40           4. One member who belongs to a statewide organization  
42 representing physicians, appointed by the President of the Senate;

44           5. One patient advocate, appointed by the Speaker of the  
House;

46           6. The Commissioner of Human Services or the commissioner's  
48 designee; and

2 7. The Commissioner of Professional and Financial  
Regulation or the commissioner's designee; and be it further

4 **Sec. 3. Chairs. Resolved:** That the first named Senate member  
is the Senate chair of the task force and the first named House  
6 of Representatives member is the House chair of the task force;  
and be it further

8 **Sec. 4. Appointments; meetings. Resolved:** That all  
10 appointments must be made no later than 30 days following the  
effective date of this resolve. The Executive Director of the  
12 Legislative Council must be notified by all appointing  
authorities once the selections have been made. When the  
14 appointment of all members has been completed, the chairs of the  
task force shall call and convene the first meeting of the task  
16 force no later than 10 days after all members have been  
appointed; and be it further

18 **Sec. 5. Duties. Resolved:** That the task force shall study  
20 health care delivery systems within the State.

22 1. In conducting the study, the task force shall examine at  
least the following topics:

24 A. Ways to avoid duplication;

26 B. Identification of waste;

28 C. Reduction of paperwork;

30 D. Standardized billing systems;

32 E. Hospital costs;

34 F. The certificate of need process;

36 G. Prescription drugs; and

38 H. The feasibility of a pilot program to implement the  
40 recommendations of the task force.

42 2. In examining these topics, the task force may:

44 A. Hold informational sessions for discussions with  
knowledgeable persons;

46 B. Conduct, summarize and analyze the results of a  
48 literature search;

2 C. Conduct, tabulate and analyze the results of a survey of  
the public or affected persons and groups;

4 D. Procure and analyze relevant data;

6 E. Conduct legal research and prepare opinions on legal  
questions within the scope of the study;

8 F. Determine and summarize the legislative actions or  
10 governmental programs undertaken in other jurisdictions  
12 related to issues within the scope of the study;

14 G. Invite experts to assist the task force or a  
subcommittee to carry out the purposes of this resolve; and

16 H. Form subcommittees of no more than 5 members to focus on  
18 a problem or issue identified by the task force; and be it  
further

20 **Sec. 6. Staff assistance. Resolved:** That, upon approval of the  
Legislative Council, the Office of Policy and Legal Analysis  
22 shall provide necessary staffing services to the task force; and  
be it further

24 **Sec. 7. Compensation. Resolved:** That the members of the task  
26 force who are Legislators are entitled to the legislative per  
diem, as defined in the Maine Revised Statutes, Title 3, section  
28 2, and reimbursement for necessary expenses incurred for their  
attendance at authorized meetings of the task force. Other  
30 members of the task force who are not otherwise compensated by  
their employers or other entities that they represent are  
32 entitled to receive reimbursement of necessary expenses incurred  
for their attendance at authorized meetings; and be it further

34 **Sec. 8. Report. Resolved:** That the task force shall submit  
36 its report, together with any necessary implementing legislation,  
to the Second Regular Session of the 120th Legislature no later  
38 than January 15, 2002. The chairs of the task force shall report  
the findings of the task force to a joint session of the 120th  
40 Legislature no later than January 15, 2002. If the task force  
requires a limited extension of time to conclude its work, it may  
42 apply to the Legislative Council, which may grant the extension;  
and be it further

44 **Sec. 9. Budget. Resolved:** That the chairs of the task force,  
46 with assistance from the task force staff, shall administer the  
task force's budget. Within 10 days after its first meeting, the  
48 task force shall present a work plan and proposed budget to the  
Legislative Council for approval. The task force may not incur  
50 expenses that would result in the task

2 force exceeding its approved budget. Upon request from the task  
force, the Executive Director of the Legislative Council shall  
4 promptly provide the task force chairs and staff with a status  
report on the task force's budget, expenditures incurred and paid  
and available funds.

6 **Emergency clause.** In view of the emergency cited in the  
8 preamble, this resolve takes effect when approved.

10 **SUMMARY**

12 This resolve establishes the Task Force to Examine Health  
14 Care Delivery Systems within the State. The task force shall  
submit a report and any necessary implementing legislation to the  
16 Second Regular Session of the 120th Legislature and the chairs of  
the task force shall report the findings of the task force to a  
18 joint session of the 120th Legislature no later than January 15,  
2002.