

# MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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AMS

L.D. 1913

DATE: March 6, 2002

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HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES

Reported by:

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STATE OF MAINE
SENATE
120TH LEGISLATURE
SECOND REGULAR SESSION

COMMITTEE AMENDMENT "A" to S.P. 711, L.D. 1913, Bill, "An Act to Implement the Recommendations of the Health Care Workforce Steering Committee"

Amend the bill by striking out the title and substituting the following:

'Resolve, to Implement the Recommendations of the Health Care Workforce Steering Committee'

Further amend the bill by striking out everything after the title and before the summary and inserting in its place the following:

'Sec. 1. Health Care Workforce Leadership Council. Resolved: That the Health Care Workforce Leadership Council, referred to in this resolve as the "council," is established to provide input on all policy initiatives, laws and rules concerning the skilled health care workforce to the Commissioner of Human Services, the Commissioner of Labor and the Department of Human Services, Bureau of Medical Services.

For the purposes of this resolve, "skilled health care workforce" consists of those health care workers who require a postsecondary education to work in the health care industry, including nurses, radiologic technologists and technicians, health information technicians, surgical technologists, pharmacists, pharmacy technicians, medical transcriptionists, respiratory therapists, medical and clinical laboratory technologists and laboratory technicians, social workers and other skilled workers other than physicians.

COMMITTEE AMENDMENT

*R.e.S.*

COMMITTEE AMENDMENT "A" to S.P. 711, L.D. 1913

1           **1. Goal.** The goal of the council is to ensure an adequate  
2 supply of skilled health care workers to the State's health care  
3 industry, including hospitals, nursing facilities, physicians'  
4 offices, laboratories, outpatient service providers and home care  
5 service providers. Issues to be considered regarding the skilled  
6 health care workforce include providing adequate capacity in  
7 educational programs to meet the demand for skilled health care  
8 workers, attracting students to health care fields of study,  
9 recruiting new employees to health care positions, retaining  
10 employees in health care positions and retaining trained health  
11 care workers in their professions.

12           **2. Membership; appointment.** The council consists of 13  
13 members appointed as follows.

14           A. The Governor shall appoint 5 members as follows.

15                   (1) Three must represent postsecondary educational  
16 institutions that offer training for skilled health  
17 care workers, of which one must represent a private  
18 postsecondary educational institution and 2 must  
19 represent public postsecondary educational institutions.

20                   (2) One must represent a labor organization that  
21 represents skilled health care workers.

22                   (3) One must represent a professional organization that  
23 represents skilled health care workers working in the  
24 administration of care for patients.

25           B. The President of the Senate shall appoint 4 members as  
26 follows.

27                   (1) Two must represent employers of skilled health  
28 care workers.

29                   (2) One must represent a labor organization that  
30 represents skilled health care workers.

31                   (3) One must represent a professional organization  
32 that represents skilled health care workers working in  
33 direct care for patients.

34           C. The Speaker of the House of Representatives shall  
35 appoint 4 members as follows.

36                   (1) One must represent a labor organization that  
37 represents skilled health care workers.

# COMMITTEE AMENDMENT

B.e/S.

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- (2) One must represent a professional organization that represents skilled health care workers working in direct care for patients.
- (3) Two must represent employers of skilled health care workers.

**3. Meetings.** By September 1, 2002, the Executive Director of the Legislative Council or the designee of the executive director shall convene the first meeting of the council, at which the members shall elect a chair from among the members of the council. The council shall meet as often as necessary and appropriate to achieve the goals of the council. Members of the council serve as volunteers and are not entitled to reimbursement for expenses or to per diem payment.

**4. Staff.** The Maine Technical College System shall provide staff support to the council.

**5. Report.** By February 1, 2003, the council shall provide an interim report to the joint standing committee of the Legislature having jurisdiction over health and human services matters regarding the work of the council and any initiatives, laws or rules pertaining to the skilled health care workforce regarding which the council provided input to the Commissioner of Human Services, the Commissioner of Labor or the Department of Human Services, Bureau of Medical Services. By November 3, 2004 the council shall provide a final report on the same issues and in the same manner as the interim report.'

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

**FISCAL NOTE**

The additional costs associated with providing staff support to the Health Care Workforce Leadership Council can be absorbed by the Maine Technical College System utilizing existing budgeted resources.'

**SUMMARY**

This amendment replaces the bill with a resolve. It clarifies that a goal of the Health Care Workforce Leadership Council is to provide adequate capacity in educational programs to meet the demand for skilled health care workers. It expands the membership of the council to 13 members and provides for appointment by the Governor, President of the Senate and Speaker of the House of Representatives. It provides that council

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**E.S.**

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2 members serve as volunteers without reimbursement or pay. It  
requires an interim report by February 1, 2003 and a final report  
4 on the work of the council by November 3, 2004. It adds a fiscal  
note.

**COMMITTEE AMENDMENT**