

MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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M
R.O.S.

L.D. 2007

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DATE: 3-11-02

(Filing No. H-886)

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HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES

10 Reproduced and distributed under the direction of the Clerk of
12 the House.

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

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COMMITTEE AMENDMENT "A" to H.P. 1504, L.D. 2007, "Resolve,
to Address the Crisis of a Shortage in Direct-care Staff in the
Long-term Care System"

24 Amend the resolve by striking out the title and substituting
the following:

26 '**Resolve, to Address the Crisis in Direct-care Staff in the**
28 '**Long-term Care System**'

30 Further amend the resolve by striking out all of sections 1
to 4 and inserting in their place the following:

32 '**Sec. 1. Rulemaking; report on legislation. Resolved:** That, by
34 November 1, 2002, the Department of Human Services, the State
Board of Nursing and the State Board of Education shall review
36 their rules and applicable law regarding the training and
certification of unlicensed direct-care staff in the long-term
38 care system and the barriers to entering or retaining work in
long-term care and shall report by December 15, 2002 to the joint
40 standing committee of the Legislature having jurisdiction over
health and human services matters regarding such legislation as
may be required to:

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44 1. Eliminate inconsistencies in training curricula,
experience requirements and certification requirements for
46 unlicensed direct-care staff whose job duties are similar in
scope and level of responsibility;

48 2. Allow unlicensed direct-care staff who have job duties
50 that are similar in scope and level of responsibility to transfer
their credentials more easily among different long-term care
52 settings; and

COMMITTEE AMENDMENT

R.O.S.

COMMITTEE AMENDMENT "A" to H.P. 1504, L.D. 2007

3. Create a career ladder that encourages unlicensed direct-care staff to build upon their previous training and experience to progress to higher levels of responsibility and certification without duplicating or forfeiting investments already made in their education and careers.

For purposes of this resolve, "unlicensed direct-care staff" means personal care attendants, certified nursing assistants, certified residential medication aides, residential care specialists I, home health aides and unlicensed mental health workers; and be it further

Sec. 2. Public awareness campaign. Resolved: That the Department of Human Services shall convene a meeting of interested parties, including, but not limited to, the Maine Health Care Association, the Maine Hospital Association, the Home Care Alliance of Maine, the long-term care ombudsman program and the area agencies on aging, to work together to develop resources to conduct a public awareness campaign on career opportunities in long-term care. By December 15, 2002, the Department of Human Services shall report to the joint standing committee of the Legislature having jurisdiction over health and human services matters regarding the progress of the parties to the discussions under this section.'

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

FISCAL NOTE

The State Board of Nursing estimates the cost for the per diem and other administrative expenses associated with reviewing its rules and applicable laws regarding the training and certification of unlicensed direct-care staff in the long-term care system to be approximately \$1,575 in fiscal year 2001-02 and \$2,625 in fiscal year 2002-03. These costs can be absorbed within the board's existing budgeted resources.

The Bureau of Medical Services within the Department of Human Services and the State Board of Education will incur some minor additional costs to review their rules and applicable laws regarding the training and certification of unlicensed direct-care staff in the long-term care system and report back by December 15, 2002. These costs can be absorbed within each entity's existing budgeted resources.'

R. of S.

COMMITTEE AMENDMENT "A" to H.P. 1504, L.D. 2007

SUMMARY

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This amendment replaces the resolve. It requires reporting to the joint standing committee of the Legislature having jurisdiction over health and human services matters regarding training and certification of unlicensed direct-care staff and requires a group of interested parties to meet to collaborate on a public awareness campaign regarding career opportunities in long-term care and to report to the same committee.

The amendment also adds a fiscal note to the resolve.