

MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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120th MAINE LEGISLATURE

SECOND REGULAR SESSION-2002

Legislative Document

No. 2013

H.P. 1510

House of Representatives, December 26, 2001

An Act to Promote the Health of Maine Women and Girls.

(EMERGENCY)

Approved for introduction by a majority of the Legislative Council pursuant to Joint Rule 203.

Received by the Clerk of the House on December 19, 2001. Referred to the Committee on Health and Human Services pursuant to Joint Rule 308.2 and ordered printed pursuant to Joint Rule 401.

Millicent M. MacFarland

MILLICENT M. MacFARLAND, Clerk

Presented by Representative COLWELL of Gardiner.
Cosponsored by Senator MITCHELL of Penobscot, Senator TREAT of Kennebec and
Representatives: FULLER of Manchester, LUNDEEN of Mars Hill, MAILHOT of Lewiston,
McGLOCKLIN of Embden, McNEIL of Rockland, O'BRIEN of Augusta, SIMPSON of
Auburn, Senator: MARTIN of Aroostook.

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

4
6 **Whereas,** it is necessary that this legislation be
implemented as an emergency measure to ensure continuation of the
legislative initiative authorized by Resolve 1999, chapter 129;
8 and

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

16 **Be it enacted by the People of the State of Maine as follows:**

18 **Sec. 1. 22 MRSA c. 268** is enacted to read:

20 CHAPTER 268

22 WOMEN'S HEALTH

24 §1656. Women's Health Initiative established

26 1. Definitions. As used in this chapter, unless the
context otherwise indicates, the following terms have the
28 following meanings.

30 A. "Bureau" means the Bureau of Health within the
Department of Human Services.

32 B. "Health" means not only the absence of disease or
34 infirmity but includes physical, mental and social
well-being.

36 C. "Initiative" means the Women's Health Initiative
38 established in this chapter.

40 2. Initiative established. The Women's Health Initiative
is established under the jurisdiction of the bureau.

42 3. Initiative purpose. The purpose of the initiative is to
44 provide a comprehensive focus on women's health, including, but
not limited to, preventing disease, improving health and quality
46 of life and promoting recovery. The bureau shall perform or
contract for services to:

- 2 A. Provide leadership in State Government on women's health
3 issues;
- 4 B. Participate in national and regional women's health
5 advisory groups;
- 6 C. Act as liaison to federal agencies on women's and girls'
7 health issues;
- 8 D. Develop programs and services to improve the health of
9 women and girls, expand access to health services and
10 decrease the number of uninsured women and girls;
- 11 E. Analyze and develop public policy;
- 12 F. Make grants and provide technical assistance and support
13 services to nonprofit and community-based organizations
14 working in the field of women's or girls' health;
- 15 G. Conduct health data collection, analysis and research;
- 16 H. Provide communication, coordination and networking among
17 communities, governmental and nongovernmental agencies and
18 entities and health resources, and disseminate information
19 about girls' and women's health;
- 20 I. Conduct strategic planning, monitoring and reporting; and
- 21 J. Provide training, continuing education and technical
22 assistance regarding women's and girls' health.

23 **Sec. 2. Report.** The Department of Human Services, Bureau of
24 Health and its contractor shall develop a report with strategies
25 and measures to promote the health of Maine's women and girls
26 under the Maine Revised Statutes, Title 22, section 1656. The
27 bureau shall submit a report detailing the strategies and
28 including any suggested implementing legislation to the joint
29 standing committee of the Legislature having jurisdiction over
30 health matters by November 1, 2002. The joint standing committee
31 may report out legislation pursuant to this section to the First
32 Regular Session of the 121st Legislature.

33 **Sec. 3. Appropriations and allocations.** The following
34 appropriations and allocations are made.

35 **HUMAN SERVICES, DEPARTMENT OF**

