

MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

The following document is provided by the
LAW AND LEGISLATIVE DIGITAL LIBRARY
at the Maine State Law and Legislative Reference Library
<http://legislature.maine.gov/lawlib>



Reproduced from scanned originals with text recognition applied
(searchable text may contain some errors and/or omissions)

DATE: 4-11-03

(Filing No. S-40)

UTILITIES AND ENERGY

Reported by:

Reproduced and distributed under the direction of the Secretary of the Senate.

STATE OF MAINE
SENATE
121ST LEGISLATURE
FIRST REGULAR SESSION

COMMITTEE AMENDMENT "A" to S.P. 134, L.D. 397, Bill, "An Act To Study the Development of an Emergency Alert Notification System for Deaf and Hard-of-hearing Individuals"

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

'Resolve, To Create the Study Group To Examine an Emergency Alert Notification System for Deaf and Hard-of-hearing Individuals'

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

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

Whereas, the Study Group to Examine an Emergency Alert Notification System for Deaf and Hard-of-hearing Individuals needs to be established to study the development of an emergency alert notification system to protect the safety of deaf and hard-of-hearing individuals; and

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 Second Regular Session of the 121st Legislature; and

COMMITTEE AMENDMENT

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

7 **Sec. 1. Study group established. Resolved:** That the Study Group
8 to Examine an Emergency Alert Notification System for Deaf and
9 Hard-of-hearing Individuals, referred to in this resolve as "the
10 study group," is established; and be it further

11 **Sec. 2. Study group membership. Resolved:** That the study
12 group consists of 17 members appointed as follows:

13 1. The Director of the Maine Emergency Management Agency
14 within the Department of Defense, Veterans and Emergency
15 Management;

16 2. A representative of the deaf community, appointed by the
17 Governor;

18 3. The Director of the Division of Deafness within the
19 Department of Labor, Bureau of Rehabilitation Services;

20 4. A representative of the emergency services committee
21 created by the Division of Deafness, recommended by the Director
22 of the Division of Deafness and appointed by the Governor;

23 5. The Director of the Emergency Services Communications
24 Bureau within the Department of Public Safety or the director's
25 designee;

26 6. A person employed by the office of the Chief Information
27 Officer within the Department of Administrative and Financial
28 Services who serves on Homeland Security Initiative III,
29 recommended by the Commissioner of Administrative and Financial
30 Services and appointed by the Governor;

31 7. A representative of the Office of the Governor, appointed
32 by the Governor;

33 8. A person employed in the Department of Labor
34 knowledgeable about the requirements of the federal Americans
35 With Disabilities Act of 1990, recommended by the Commissioner of
36 Labor and appointed by the Governor;

37 9. Two persons knowledgeable in the subject of closed
38 captioning on commercial television broadcasts, appointed by the
39 Governor;

40 10. A representative of the Maine Public Broadcasting
41 Corporation, appointed by the Governor;

COMMITTEE AMENDMENT "A" to S.P. 134, L.D. 397

11. Two representatives of municipal emergency service providers, appointed by the Governor;

12. A representative of state or local law enforcement, appointed by the Governor;

13. A person with expertise in telephone and pager technology, appointed by the Governor; and

14. Two persons with technical expertise in emergency notification systems and state-of-the-art technologies relevant to the subject of the study, appointed by the Governor; and be it further

Sec. 3. Chair. Resolved: That the Director of the Maine Emergency Management Agency within the Department of Defense, Veterans and Emergency Management shall serve as chair; and be it further

Sec. 4. Appointments; convening of study group. Resolved: That all appointments must be made no later than 30 days following the effective date of this resolve. The appointing authorities shall notify the Executive Director of the Legislative Council once all appointments have been completed. Within 15 days after appointment of all members, the chair shall call and convene the first meeting of the study group; and be it further

Sec. 5. Duties. Resolved: That the study group shall:

1. Study the development of emergency alert systems for deaf and hard-of-hearing individuals for all types of emergencies, including weather-related emergencies;

2. Develop recommendations for establishing or improving emergency alert systems for deaf and hard-of-hearing individuals;

3. Compile and evaluate information relevant to the subject of the study;

4. Seek input and information from any state agencies with expertise relevant to the subject of the study;

5. Invite public comments and testimony during the development of its recommendation; and

6. Invite participation from any interested members of the Joint Standing Committee on Utilities and Energy; and be it further

Approved: 03/30/03 *MAC*

**121st Maine Legislature
Office of Fiscal and Program Review**



LD 397

**An Act To Study the Development of an Emergency Alert Notification
System for Deaf and Hard-of-hearing Individuals**

LR 0988(02)

Fiscal Note for Bill as Amended by Committee Amendment *A'S-40*

Committee: Utilities and Energy

Fiscal Note Required: Yes

Fiscal Note

Minor cost increase - General Fund