

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)



121st MAINE LEGISLATURE

FIRST REGULAR SESSION-2003

Legislative Document

No. 1301

H.P. 955

House of Representatives, March 11, 2003

Resolve, To Establish the Maine Public Health Commission

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

Millicent M. MacFarland
MILLICENT M. MacFARLAND
Clerk

Presented by Representative COWGER of Hallowell.
Cosponsored by Senator BRENNAN of Cumberland and
Representatives: CRAVEN of Lewiston, DUGAY of Cherryfield, FAIRCLOTH of Bangor,
KANE of Saco, KOFFMAN of Bar Harbor, LAVERRIERE-BOUCHER of Biddeford,
NORBERT of Portland, SIMPSON of Auburn.

2 **Sec. 1. Commission established. Resolved:** That the Maine
Public Health Commission, referred to in this resolve as "the
commission," is established; and be it further

4
6 **Sec. 2. Commission membership. Resolved:** That the commission
consists of 19 members appointed as follows:

8 1. Two members of the Senate, appointed by the President of the
the Senate;

10 2. Two members of the House of Representatives, appointed
by the Speaker of the House;

12 3. Five members of a public health or health care
organization, appointed by the President of the Senate;

14 4. Five members of a public health or health care
organization, appointed by the Speaker of the House; and

16 5. Five members of a public health or health care
organization, appointed by the Governor; and be it further

18 **Sec. 3. Chairs. Resolved:** That the first-named Senate member
is the Senate chair of the commission and the first-named House
of Representatives member is the House chair of the commission;
and be it further

20 **Sec. 4. Appointments; convening of commission. 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 chairs shall call and convene the
first meeting of the commission; and be it further

22 **Sec. 5. Duties. Resolved:** That the commission shall develop a
legislative proposal for a regional public health system to
improve and protect the public health, recognizing the importance
of disease prevention to controlling health care costs. Any
proposed system must be integrated with the current or any
proposed health care system in the State; and be it further

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

26 **Sec. 7. Compensation. Resolved:** That the legislative members
of the commission are entitled to the legislative per

diem, as defined in the Maine Revised Statutes, Title 3, section 2, and reimbursement for travel and other necessary expenses related to their attendance at authorized meetings of the commission. Public members not otherwise compensated by their employers or other entities that they represent are entitled to receive reimbursement of necessary expenses and, upon a demonstration of financial hardship, a per diem equal to the legislative per diem for their attendance at authorized meetings of the commission; and be it further

Sec. 8. Report. Resolved: That, no later than November 1, 2003, the commission shall submit a report that includes its findings and recommendations, including suggested legislation, for presentation to the Joint Standing Committee on Health and Human Services and the Legislative Council. The commission is authorized to introduce legislation related to its report to the Second Regular Session of the 121st Legislature at the time of submission of its report; and be it further

Sec. 9. Extension. Resolved: That, if the commission requires a limited extension of time to complete its study and make its report, it may apply to the Legislative Council, which may grant an extension; and be it further

Sec. 10. Commission budget. Resolved: That the chairs of the commission, with assistance from the commission staff, shall administer the commission's budget. Within 10 days after its first meeting, the commission shall present a work plan and proposed budget to the Legislative Council for its approval. The commission may not incur expenses that would result in the commission's exceeding its approved budget. Upon request from the commission, the Executive Director of the Legislative Council shall promptly provide the commission chairs and staff with a status report on the commission budget, expenditures incurred and paid and available funds.

SUMMARY

This resolve establishes the Maine Public Health Commission to develop a proposal for the Second Regular Session of the 121st Legislature for a regional public health system to improve and protect the public health. Proposals by the commission must be integrated with the current or any proposed health care system in the State.