

# MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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PLS

L.D. 545

DATE: 5.19.05

(Filing No. S-209)

HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES

Reported by:

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STATE OF MAINE
SENATE
122ND LEGISLATURE
FIRST SPECIAL SESSION

COMMITTEE AMENDMENT A to S.P. 171, L.D. 545, "Resolve, To Improve Medical Eligibility Assessments for Long-term Care Consumers"

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

'Resolve, To Improve Procedures for Assessing the Mental Health Services Needs of Older Individuals'

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

Sec. 1. Recommend procedure to assess mental health needs of older persons; data collection. Resolved: That the Department of Health and Human Services shall recommend a procedure for the timely assessment of an older individual's need for mental health services. The recommendations must include an efficient, cost-effective data collection process to identify consumer needs for mental health services for older persons, regardless of the setting. Recommendations developed under this section must be undertaken in consultation with the work group convened in section 2 and must be included in the report required under section 3; and be it further

Sec. 2. Work group. Resolved: That the Department of Health and Human Services and the Joint Advisory Committee on Select Services for Older Persons shall, in consultation with other consumers, providers and advocates, form a work group and shall:

COMMITTEE AMENDMENT

2 1. Review and make recommendations on a mental health  
4 assessment screen as part of the needs assessment of applicants  
for long-term care services;

6 2. In consultation with the State Board of Nursing and the  
8 Department of Education, review training curricula for direct  
10 care workers in all long-term care settings and recommend  
12 revisions to the curricula necessary to include a stronger focus  
14 on the identification of and management of behavioral disorders  
in the long-term care population. In conducting that review, the  
Department of Health and Human Services and the work group shall  
consider the creation of a specialized behavioral health  
certification for certified nursing assistants; and

16 3. Review and make recommendations concerning other  
18 information regarding the needs of persons over 60 years of age,  
including, but not limited to, a review of the following:

20 A. Information regarding minimum data set data on the use  
22 of psychotropics in all long-term care facilities;

24 B. The number of hospitalizations due to psychiatric or  
behavioral episodes, including the referral setting;

26 C. The number of adult protective service intakes related  
28 to mental health and behavioral issues and their outcomes;

30 D. The number and type of consultations performed by  
32 Department of Health and Human Services behavioral  
consultants, including trends, characteristics and outcomes;

34 E. Mental health services provided through MaineCare by  
diagnosis for persons over 60 years of age;

36 F. The number of consent decree clients with dementia and  
38 the number of persons with mental retardation and  
developmental disabilities over 60 years of age; and

40 G. Information regarding spending for geriatric mental  
42 health services; and be it further

44 **Sec. 3. Report. Resolved:** That the Department of Health and  
46 Human Services and the Joint Advisory Committee on Select  
48 Services for Older Persons shall jointly submit a report on the  
issues identified in sections 1 and 2, including recommendations  
and suggested legislation, to the Joint Standing Committee on  
Health and Human Services by January 14, 2006.'

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**SUMMARY**

This amendment replaces the resolve and changes the title of the resolve. The amendment directs the Department of Health and Human Services to recommend a procedure for the timely assessment of an older individual's need for mental health services, including recommendations on an efficient, cost-effective data collection process to identify consumer needs for mental health services for older persons, regardless of the setting. The amendment also requires the Department of Health and Human Services and the Joint Advisory Committee on Select Services for Older Persons, in consultation with other consumers, providers and advocates, to undertake a review and make recommendations on a mental health assessment screen as part of the needs assessment of applicants for long-term care services and several other issues pertaining to the status of mental health services to persons over 60 years of age. The amendment also directs the department to consult with the Joint Advisory Committee on Select Services for Older Persons, the State Board of Nursing and the Department of Education to review training curricula for direct care workers in all long-term care settings and to recommend revisions to the curricula necessary to include a stronger focus on the identification of and management of behavioral disorders in the long-term care population.

The department and the Joint Advisory Committee on Select Services for Older Persons are required to jointly submit a report, including recommendations on these issues and suggested legislation, to the Joint Standing Committee on Health and Human Services by January 14, 2006.

**FISCAL NOTE REQUIRED**  
**(See attached)**



Approved: 05/06/05 *MAC*

# 122nd MAINE LEGISLATURE

LD 545

LR 1963(02)

**Resolve, To Improve Medical Eligibility Assessments for Long-term Care Consumers**

**Fiscal Note for Bill as Amended by Committee Amendment "A"**

**Committee: Health and Human Services**

**Fiscal Note Required: Yes**

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## Fiscal Note

Minor cost increase - General Fund

Minor cost increase - Other Special Revenue Funds

### Fiscal Detail and Notes

Any additional costs to the Department of Health and Human Services, the Board of Nursing and the Department of Education in implementing this bill can be absorbed utilizing existing resources.