

MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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122nd MAINE LEGISLATURE

FIRST REGULAR SESSION-2005

Legislative Document

No. 561

H.P. 416

House of Representatives, February 3, 2005

**An Act To Rename the Bangor Mental Health Institute the
Dorothea Dix Center for Public Service and To Establish the
Dorothea Dix Award**

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

Millicent M. MacFarland
MILLICENT M. MacFARLAND
Clerk

Presented by Representative FAIRCLOTH of Bangor.
Cosponsored by Senator PERRY of Penobscot and
Representatives: BRANNIGAN of Portland, CANAVAN of Waterville, DUNN of Bangor,
Senator: PLOWMAN of Penobscot.

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

4 **Sec. 1. 34-B MRSA c. 1, sub-c. 2-B** is enacted to read:

6 **SUBCHAPTER 2-B**

8 **DOROTHEA DIX AWARD**

10 **§1301. Dorothea Dix Award**

12 The commissioner shall establish the Dorothea Dix Award,
14 which recognizes and honors outstanding achievement in improving
16 policies pertaining to people living with mental illness or
18 mental disabilities. The award must be made on April 4th of each
20 odd-numbered year at the Dorothea Dix Center for Public Service.
22 The Governor shall present the award.

24 1. Eligibility. A person who is a Maine resident or has
26 direct long-standing ties with Maine is eligible to win the award.

28 2. Dorothea Dix Award Selection Committee; established.
30 The Dorothea Dix Award Selection Committee, known in this
32 subchapter as "the committee," is established and consists of the
34 following 4 members:

36 A. One member must be a representative of an organization
38 that advocates for people with mental illness and their
40 families, chosen by the Governor;

42 B. One member must be from an organization that advocates
44 for the legal rights of people living with disabilities,
46 chosen by the President of the Senate;

48 C. One member must be from an organization that advocates
50 for people with mental disabilities, chosen by the Speaker
of the House of Representatives; and

D. One member must be a representative from an organization
that advocates for children living with mental illness or
mental disabilities, chosen by the Attorney General.

2. Selection procedure. Any person may nominate a
candidate for the award. The committee shall develop a review
and selection procedure.

Sec. 2. 34-B MRSA §3201, as enacted by PL 1983, c. 459, §7,
is amended to read:

§3201. Maintenance

2 The commissioner shall maintain 2 state mental health
institutes for the mentally ill, one at Bangor called the ~~Bangor~~
3 ~~Mental-Health-Institute~~ Dorothea Dix Center for Public Service
4 and the other at Augusta called the ~~Augusta--Mental--Health~~
~~Institute~~ Riverview Psychiatric Center.

6
7 **Sec. 3. Maine Revised Statutes amended; revision clause.** Wherever
8 in the Maine Revised Statutes the words "Bangor Mental Health
9 Institute" appear or reference is made to that entity or those
10 words, those words are amended to read or mean, as appropriate,
11 "Dorothea Dix Center for Public Service," and the Revisor of
12 Statutes shall implement this revision when updating, publishing
or republishing the statutes.

14
15 **Sec. 4. Transition provisions.** All existing supplies, forms,
16 letterheads and similar items bearing the name of or referring to
the Bangor Mental Health Institute or to the Superintendent of
18 the Bangor Mental Health Institute may be used by the Dorothea
Dix Center for Public Service or the Superintendent of the
20 Dorothea Dix Center for Public Service until existing supplies of
these items are exhausted.

22
23 All existing contracts, agreements and compacts of the
24 Bangor Mental Health Institute currently in effect continue in
effect.

26
27 Any positions authorized and allocated subject to the
28 personnel laws to the Bangor Mental Health Institute are
transferred to the Dorothea Dix Center for Public Service and may
30 continue to be authorized.

32 SUMMARY

34
35 This bill changes the name of the Bangor Mental Health
36 Institute to the Dorothea Dix Center for Public Service. The
bill also creates the Dorothea Dix Award.