

# MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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# 122nd MAINE LEGISLATURE

## FIRST REGULAR SESSION-2005

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Legislative Document

No. 1302

H.P. 899

House of Representatives, March 15, 2005

**Resolve, Establishing The Task Force To Study Cervical Cancer  
Prevention, Detection and Education**

(EMERGENCY)

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

*Millicent M. MacFarland*  
MILLICENT M. MacFARLAND  
Clerk

Presented by Representative MARRACHÉ of Waterville.  
Cosponsored by Senator PLOWMAN of Penobscot and  
Representatives: ADAMS of Portland, BOWLES of Sanford, FAIRCLOTH of Bangor,  
HUTTON of Bowdoinham, MAKAS of Lewiston, Speaker RICHARDSON of Brunswick,  
Senator: WESTON of Waldo.

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

4  
6           **Whereas,** this resolve establishes the Task Force to Study  
Cervical Cancer Prevention, Detection and Education; and

8           **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 next legislative  
session; and

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

18           **Sec. 1. Task force established. Resolved:** That the Task Force to  
20 Study Cervical Cancer Prevention, Detection and Education,  
referred to in this resolve as "the task force," is established;  
22 and be it further

24           **Sec. 2. Task force membership. Resolved:** That the task force  
consists of the following 13 members.

26           1. Three members are appointed by the President of the  
28 Senate as follows:

30           A. One representative of a women's health organization;

32           B. One communications consultant; and

34           C. One representative of the American Academy of Pediatrics;

36           2. Three members are appointed by the Speaker of the House  
of Representatives as follows:

38           A. One representative of the American Cancer Society who is  
40 an oncologist;

42           B. One representative of the health insurance industry; and

44           C. One representative of the American College of  
46 Obstetricians and Gynecologists;

48           3. Five members are appointed by the Governor as follows:

50           A. One representative of the American Academy of Family  
Physicians;

- 2           B. One licensed registered nurse;
- 4           C. One representative of the Maine Medical Association or  
          its successor;
- 6           D. One member of the Maine Osteopathic Association or its  
8           successor; and
- 10          E. One person who has survived cervical cancer;

12           4. The state epidemiologist or the epidemiologist's  
14           designee; and

16           5. The Director of the Bureau of Health within the  
18           Department of Health and Human Services, or the director's  
          designee, who serves as an ex officio member of the task force.

20           When making appointments to the task force, each appointing  
22           authority shall ensure that appointees reflect the composition of  
          the State's population with regard to ethnicity, race and age;  
          and be it further

24           **Sec. 3. Chair. Resolved:** That the Governor shall select a  
26           chair from among the members of the task force. The task force  
          shall elect a vice-chair from its members; and be it further

28           **Sec. 4. Appointments; convening of task force. Resolved:** That all  
30           appointments must be made no later than October 21, 2005. The  
32           appointing authorities shall notify the Executive Director of the  
          Legislative Council once all appointments have been completed.  
          The chair shall call and convene the first meeting of the task  
          force on November 15, 2005; and be it further

34           **Sec. 5. Quorum. Resolved:** That a majority of the task force  
36           constitutes a quorum for the transaction of its business; and be  
          it further

38           **Sec. 6. Committees. Resolved:** That the task force chair may  
40           establish committees for the purpose of making special studies  
42           pursuant to its duties and may appoint persons who are not  
44           members of the task force to serve on each committee as resource  
          persons. Resource persons are voting members of the committees  
46           to which they are appointed. Committees may meet with the  
          frequency needed to accomplish the purposes of this resolve; and  
          be it further

48           **Sec. 7. Duties. Resolved:** That the task force shall:

1. Obtain statistical and qualitative data on the prevalence and incidence of cervical cancer in Maine;

2. Raise public awareness of the causes and nature of cervical cancer, personal risk factors, value of prevention, early detection, options for testing, treatment costs, new technology and medical care reimbursement;

3. Identify preventive strategies and new technologies, including newly introduced vaccines that are effective in preventing and controlling the risk of cervical cancer;

4. Identify and examine the limitations of existing laws, regulations, programs and services regarding coverage and awareness of cervical cancer;

5. Develop, in consultation with the Department of Health and Human Services, a statewide comprehensive cervical cancer prevention plan and strategies for plan implementation and for promoting the plan to the general public, state and local elected officials and various public and private organizations, associations, businesses, industries and agencies;

6. Facilitate coordination and communication among state and local agencies and organizations regarding their involvement in achieving the aims of the task force plan; and

7. Consider reports and testimony from individuals, local health departments, community-based organizations, voluntary health organizations and other public and private organizations statewide to learn more about their contributions to cervical cancer diagnosis, prevention and treatment and their ideas for improving prevention, diagnosis and treatment in Maine; and be it further

**Sec. 8. Staff assistance. Resolved:** That the Legislative Council shall provide necessary staffing services to the task force; and be it further

**Sec. 9. Compensation. Resolved:** That public members not otherwise compensated by their employers or other entities that they represent are entitled to receive reimbursement of necessary expenses for their attendance at authorized meetings of the task force; and be it further

**Sec. 10. Report. Resolved:** That, no later than April 1, 2006, the task force shall submit an initial report that includes its findings and recommendations, including suggested legislation, for presentation to the Joint Standing Committee on

2 Health and Human Services and the Governor. The task force is  
not authorized to introduce legislation. Following receipt and  
4 review of a final report by January 15, 2007, the joint standing  
committee of the Legislature having jurisdiction over health and  
6 human services matters may report out a bill to the First Regular  
Session of the 123rd Legislature; and be it further

8 **Sec. 11. Task force budget. Resolved:** That the chair of the  
task force, with assistance from the task force staff, shall  
10 administer the task force's budget. Within 10 days after its  
first meeting, the task force shall present a work plan and  
12 proposed budget to the Legislative Council for its approval. The  
task force may not incur expenses that would result in the task  
14 force's exceeding its approved budget. Upon request from the  
task force, the Executive Director of the Legislative Council  
16 shall promptly provide the task force chair and staff with a  
status report on the task force budget, expenditures incurred and  
18 paid and available funds.

20 **Emergency clause.** In view of the emergency cited in the  
preamble, this resolve takes effect when approved.  
22

#### 24 SUMMARY

26 This resolve establishes the Task Force to Study Cervical  
Cancer Prevention, Detection and Education. The purpose of the  
28 task force is to raise public awareness of the causes and nature  
of cervical cancer, personal risk factors, value of prevention,  
30 early detection, options for testing, treatment costs, new  
technology and medical care reimbursement. The task force is  
32 also charged with several other duties, including, but not  
limited to, identifying preventive strategies and new  
34 technologies, including newly introduced vaccines that are  
effective in preventing and controlling the risk of cervical  
36 cancer. The members of the task force are appointed by the  
Governor, the President of the Senate and the Speaker of the  
38 House. The task force shall submit its final report to the  
Governor and the joint standing committee of the Legislature  
40 having jurisdiction over health and human services matters by  
January 15, 2007.