MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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123rd MAINE LEGISLATURE

FIRST REGULAR SESSION-2007

Legislative Document

No. 609

S.P. 201

February 8, 2007

Resolve, To Preserve and Support Community Treatment Options for Children's Behavioral Health Needs

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

JOY J. O'BRIEN Secretary of the Senate

Presented by Senator BRANNIGAN of Cumberland.
Cosponsored by Representative CONNOR of Kennebunk and
Senators: MARRACHÉ of Kennebec, RAYE of Washington, Representatives: BEAUDOIN of
Biddeford, CAMPBELL of Newfield, GROSE of Woolwich, LEWIN of Eliot, MILLER of
Somerville, WALCOTT of Lewiston.

- Sec. 1. Children's behavioral health services. Resolved: That the Department of Health and Human Services shall preserve and support community treatment options for children's behavioral health needs through the following:
 - 1. Assessment of section 65(m) and (n) services. By December 1, 2007 the department shall perform a comprehensive assessment of outcomes from MaineCare services provided under MaineCare Rule chapter 101, chapter II, section 65(m) and (n), including how many evidence-based practices are supported under the reimbursement structure, how and to what extent services provided under MaineCare Rule chapter 101, chapter II, section 65(m) and (n) have improved children's functioning in the community and the value and cost-effectiveness of the central referral process;
 - 2. Assessment of children's community behavioral health. By December 1, 2007 the department shall perform a comprehensive assessment of children's community behavioral health needs and services under the MaineCare program that provides information on what needs are being met and what needs are not being met under the current array of services reimbursed; and
 - **3.** Legislative review. Beginning October 1, 2007, the department shall impose a moratorium on the elimination of children's community-based mental health services until after the assessments required under subsections 1 and 2 have been completed and reviewed by families, providers and other stakeholders and the joint standing committee of the Legislature having jurisdiction over health and human services matters.

21 SUMMARY

This resolve provides a method of assessing children's community behavioral health needs and the services that are being provided. The resolve directs the Department of Health and Human Services to perform 2 assessments and to impose a moratorium on the elimination of children's community behavioral health services until the assessments have been performed and reviewed.