

MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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Date: 6/7/07

L.D. 1812

(Filing No. H-458)

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HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES

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Reproduced and distributed under the direction of the Clerk of the House.

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STATE OF MAINE

6

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

7

123RD LEGISLATURE

8

FIRST REGULAR SESSION

9

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COMMITTEE AMENDMENT "A" to H.P. 1264, L.D. 1812, "Resolve, Regarding the Role of Local Regions in Maine's Emerging Public Health Infrastructure"

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Amend the resolve by striking out everything after the title and before the summary and inserting the following:

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

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Whereas, the Public Health Work Group was established by the Governor's Office on Health Policy and Finance pursuant to recommendations contained in the 2006 State Health Plan for Maine; and

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Whereas, the Public Health Work Group has issued consensus recommendations for the establishment of a regional public health infrastructure, including regional coordinating councils in 8 public health regions, both urban and rural, that will improve the public's health, and calls for certain other functions to be carried out at the local, regional and state levels through a partnership of government and nongovernmental entities; and

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Whereas, the mechanisms for governance and many matters related to the functioning of the local and regional public health structures have not yet been defined; and

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Whereas, an effective regional public health system must incorporate meaningful roles for both the public and private sectors, including, but not limited to, county and municipal governments, hospitals, other providers of medical care and behavioral health services and schools, and ensure that those roles are coordinated, complementary and responsive to local needs and are linked appropriately to state agencies; and

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Whereas, considerable progress on study and planning related to the establishment of the regional coordinating councils has been made in some counties of the newly designated regions, notably Cumberland, Sagadahoc and Penobscot counties, and this expertise will help guide and inform the Public Health Work Group as it further develops

COMMITTEE AMENDMENT

COMMITTEE AMENDMENT "A" to H.P. 1264, L.D. 1812

1 guidance for the establishment, authority and governance of the regional coordinating
2 councils; and

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

7 **Sec. 1. Public Health Work Group membership expanded. Resolved:**
8 That the Governor shall expand the membership of the Public Health Work Group
9 established under the State Health Plan pursuant to the Maine Revised Statutes, Title 2,
10 chapter 5 to include a statewide family planning organization, aging agencies, emergency
11 medical services, county commissioners, municipal elected officials, municipal health
12 departments, local health officers, small and large hospitals, community health centers,
13 public health organizations and associations, health care providers, behavioral health
14 provider organizations, substance abuse prevention organizations, substance abuse
15 treatment providers, emergency management officials, community social services
16 agencies, statewide voluntary health agencies, comprehensive community health
17 coalitions, education and training institutions, environmental health organizations, school
18 administrative units, tribal representatives, the Department of Health and Human
19 Services' Maine Center for Disease Control and Prevention and Office of Substance
20 Abuse, the Department of Education and the Governor's Office of Health Policy and
21 Finance. There must be representatives from all 8 public health regions. The Public
22 Health Work Group may not have more than 40 members. The Public Health Work
23 Group shall notify members of the Joint Standing Committee on Health and Human
24 Services and the Joint Standing Committee on State and Local Government of the dates
25 and locations of meetings related to this resolve; and be it further

26 **Sec. 2. Report. Resolved:** That the Public Health Work Group shall report to the
27 Joint Standing Committee on Health and Human Services and the Joint Standing
28 Committee on State and Local Government by December 1, 2007. The report must
29 include:

30 1. A description of current plans for the development of a statewide public health
31 services infrastructure, including the regional coordinating councils;

32 2. Recommendations for a statewide public health infrastructure to be developed
33 within existing resources over the next 5 years with the goals of ensuring access to public
34 health services and of improving effectiveness and efficiencies of public health services
35 delivery;

36 3. Recommendations for any necessary changes to public health duties, financing
37 and governance and the roles of public, private, grassroots and nonprofit organizations as
38 well as the scope of functions they perform in the public health system; and

39 4. Draft legislation, as necessary, to carry out the Public Health Work Group's
40 recommendations.

41 The Public Health Work Group may form subcommittees as necessary to achieve
42 these purposes. The joint standing committee is authorized to submit legislation to carry
43 out the recommendations of the Public Health Work Group related to this resolve.



Approved: 06/05/07 *MAC*

123rd MAINE LEGISLATURE

LD 1812

LR 2384(02)

Resolve, Regarding the Role of Local Regions in Maine's Emerging Public Health Infrastructure

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

Committee: Health and Human Services

Fiscal Note Required: Yes

Fiscal Note

Minor cost increase - General Fund

Fiscal Detail and Notes

The additional costs associated with the Public Health Work Group can be absorbed by the Department of Health and Human Services utilizing existing budgeted resources.