MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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125th MAINE LEGISLATURE

FIRST REGULAR SESSION-2011

Legislative Document

No. 758

H.P. 565

House of Representatives, March 1, 2011

Resolve, To Establish a Schoolchildren's Well-being Stakeholder Group

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

HEATHER J.R. PRIEST Clerk

Presented by Representative BOLAND of Sanford. Cosponsored by Senator PATRICK of Oxford and

Representatives: BERRY of Bowdoinham, CASAVANT of Biddeford, FOSSEL of Alna, JOHNSON of Greenville, LAJOIE of Lewiston, MAKER of Calais, PETERSON of Rumford, STEVENS of Bangor.

1 2 3 4 5	Sec. 1. Schoolchildren's well-being stakeholder group established. Resolved: That the Department of Education and the Department of Health and Human Services, referred to in this resolve as "the departments," shall, within existing budgeted resources, jointly convene a schoolchildren's well-being stakeholder group, referred to in this resolve as "the stakeholder group"; and be it further
6 7	Sec. 2. Stakeholder group membership. Resolved: That the departments shall invite participation in the stakeholder group by:
8	1. Representatives from academia involved in food science research or studies;
9	2. Representatives from the Maine Organic Farmers and Gardeners Association;
10	3. Researchers or executives from the food science industry;
11	4. School nutritionists;
12	5. School nurses;
13	6. Special education teachers and other teachers;
14	7. Parents of schoolchildren; and
15	8. Any other interested parties; and be it further
16 17 18 19 20 21 22 23	Sec. 3. Duties. Resolved: That the stakeholder group shall identify options and alternatives to improve and maintain the nutritional well-being of schoolchildren. In undertaking its work under this section, the stakeholder group's goal is to make recommendations to improve childhood health and student performance through nutritional strategies that include food choices and dietary supplementation with particular emphasis on addressing childhood behavioral disorders, attention deficit and attention deficit hyperactivity disorders, autism spectrum disorders and child obesity; and be it further
24 25 26 27 28 29 30 31 32	Sec. 4. Report. Resolved: That, no later than December 15, 2011, the departments shall jointly submit a report to the Joint Standing Committee on Education and Cultural Affairs and the Joint Standing Committee on Health and Human Services that includes the findings of the stakeholder group, the options and alternatives developed by the stakeholder group and any analysis by the departments of those options and alternatives. The report may include suggested legislation. The Joint Standing Committee on Health and Human Services and the Joint Standing Committee on Education and Cultural Affairs may each submit legislation to the Second Regular Session of the 125th Legislature related to the report of the departments.
33	SUMMARY
34 35 36	This resolve requires the Department of Education and the Department of Health and Human Services to jointly convene a stakeholder group to identify options and alternatives to improve and maintain the nutritional well-being of schoolchildren. In

particular, the focus of the stakeholder group will be to explore ways and make recommendations to address childhood behavioral disorders, attention deficit and attention deficit hyperactivity disorders, autism spectrum disorders and child obesity through nutritional strategies that include food choices and dietary supplementation. The departments are required to present the work of the stakeholder group to the Joint Standing Committee on Education and Cultural Affairs and the Joint Standing Committee on Health and Human Services and may suggest legislation to the joint standing committees, which may each submit legislation to the Second Regular Session of the 125th Legislature.

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