

MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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125th MAINE LEGISLATURE

FIRST REGULAR SESSION-2011

Legislative Document

No. 967

H.P. 711

House of Representatives, March 8, 2011

**An Act To Cut the Cost of Behavioral Health Care in Hospital
Emergency Rooms and To Enhance Access to Peer Support and
Community-based Services**

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

A handwritten signature in black ink, reading 'Heather J.R. Priest'.

HEATHER J.R. PRIEST
Clerk

Presented by Representative SANBORN of Gorham.
Cosponsored by Senator CRAVEN of Androscoggin and
Representatives: BRYANT of Windham, EBERLE of South Portland, STUCKEY of Portland,
WEBSTER of Freeport.

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

2 **CONCEPT DRAFT**

3 **SUMMARY**

4 This bill is a concept draft pursuant to Joint Rule 208.

5 This bill proposes to provide community-based mental health and substance abuse
6 providers in emergency rooms to triage both mental health and substance abuse patients,
7 in order to refer such patients to more appropriate and less expensive community-based
8 treatment, and use the savings to increase access to peer support services.