

MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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127th MAINE LEGISLATURE

FIRST REGULAR SESSION-2015

Legislative Document

No. 525

S.P. 194

In Senate, February 26, 2015

**Resolve, To Direct the Department of Health and Human Services
To Report on Efforts To Reach in Rural Areas Persons Who Are
Elderly, Disabled or Mentally Ill**

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

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Heather J.R. Priest".

HEATHER J.R. PRIEST
Secretary of the Senate

Presented by Senator DAVIS of Piscataquis.
Cosponsored by Representative HIGGINS of Dover-Foxcroft and
Senators: BURNS of Washington, SAVIELLO of Franklin, Representative: STEARNS of
Guilford.

1 **Sec. 1. Department of Health and Human Services to report on efforts to**
2 **reach in rural areas persons who are elderly, disabled or mentally ill.**
3 **Resolved:** That the Department of Health and Human Services shall report on its efforts
4 to reach in rural areas persons who are elderly, disabled or mentally ill. The department
5 shall particularly focus on elderly, disabled and mentally ill persons who are not able to
6 use or who have no access to the Internet or other electronic forms of communication
7 technology or who have limited contact with the department. In developing this report,
8 the department shall hold at least one public meeting in Piscataquis County to which
9 persons, parties and organizations interested in the health and well-being of persons who
10 are elderly, disabled or mentally ill may attend to inform the department of the
11 effectiveness of department efforts and any shortcomings in efforts to reach in rural areas
12 persons who are elderly, disabled or mentally ill and the ability of those populations to
13 access department services and personnel. The department shall submit its report to the
14 Joint Standing Committee on Health and Human Services by January 1, 2016.

15

SUMMARY

16 This resolve requires the Department of Health and Human Services to report on
17 department efforts to reach in rural areas persons who are elderly, disabled or mentally ill.
18 This resolve requires the department, in developing its report, to have at least one public
19 meeting in Piscataquis County and to particularly focus on elderly, disabled and mentally
20 ill persons who are not able to use or who have no access to the Internet and other
21 electronic forms of communication technology or who have limited contact with the
22 department.