

MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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L.D. 1588

Date: 6-10-21

(Filing No. H-555)

MAJORITY
CRIMINAL JUSTICE AND PUBLIC SAFETY

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STATE OF MAINE
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
130TH LEGISLATURE
FIRST SPECIAL SESSION

COMMITTEE AMENDMENT "A" to H.P. 1177, L.D. 1588, "Resolve, To Convene a Working Group To Identify and Find Replacements for Certain Stigmatizing References throughout the Maine Revised Statutes and Government Publications"

Amend the resolve by striking out the title and substituting the following:

'Resolve, To Replace Certain Stigmatizing Language in the Maine Revised Statutes with Respectful Language'

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

'Sec. 1. Identification of stigmatizing language; substitution of respectful language. Resolved: That the Revisor of Statutes shall review the Maine Revised Statutes, Titles 22, 22-A, 25 and 34-A for stigmatizing language in the laws governing the Department of Health and Human Services, the Department of Public Safety and the Department of Corrections. The Revisor of Statutes shall report to the Joint Standing Committee on Criminal Justice and Public Safety by January 15, 2022 and shall provide draft legislation to amend the laws of the 3 departments in the Titles identified to change stigmatizing language as described in this section to respectful language. The Revisor of Statutes shall recommend editing the laws as necessary to accommodate singular and plural forms, masculine and feminine forms and adult and minor forms and, when possible, shall use so-called person-first language. The stigmatizing language to be changed includes "prisoner," "inmate" and "convict," which must be changed to "resident of a correctional facility" or "resident of a jail"; "drug user," which must be changed to "person who uses drugs"; "probationer," which must be changed to "client of the Department of Corrections"; and "mentally ill person," which must be changed to "person with a mental illness."

Sec. 2. Legislation. Resolved: That based on the report from the Revisor of Statutes pursuant to section 1, the Joint Standing Committee on Criminal Justice and Public Safety may report out legislation to change stigmatizing language in the Maine Revised Statutes, Titles 22, 22-A, 25 and 34-A to respectful language and direct the Department of Health and Human Services, Department of Public Safety and Department of Corrections

COMMITTEE AMENDMENT

to amend their rules, policies, procedures, forms and publications to conform to the respectful language that is adopted by the Legislature.

Sec. 3. Appropriations and allocations. Resolved: That the following appropriations and allocations are made.

LEGISLATURE

Legislature 0081

Initiative: Provides one-time funding to the Office of the Revisor of Statutes to contract with an outside entity to review Titles 22, 22-A, 25 and 34-A of the Maine Revised Statutes for stigmatizing language and to prepare a report to the Joint Standing Committee on Criminal Justice and Public Safety by January 15, 2022, with draft legislation to amend the laws to change the stigmatizing language to respectful language.

GENERAL FUND	2021-22	2022-23
All Other	\$11,400	\$0
GENERAL FUND TOTAL	\$11,400	\$0

Amend the resolve by relettering or renumbering any nonconsecutive Part letter or section number to read consecutively.

SUMMARY

This amendment is the majority report of the committee. This amendment replaces the title and resolve. The amendment directs the Revisor of Statutes to review the Maine Revised Statutes, Titles 22, 22-A, 25 and 34-A for stigmatizing language in the laws governing the Department of Health and Human Services, the Department of Public Safety and the Department of Corrections and to report to the Joint Standing Committee on Criminal Justice and Public Safety by January 15, 2022 with draft legislation to amend the laws of the 3 departments to change stigmatizing language as specified to respectful language also as specified. The amendment authorizes the Joint Standing Committee on Criminal Justice and Public Safety to report out legislation to change stigmatizing language in Titles 22, 22-A, 25 and 34-A to respectful language and direct the Department of Health and Human Services, Department of Public Safety and Department of Corrections to amend their rules, policies, procedures, forms and publications to conform to the respectful language that is adopted by the Legislature. The amendment also adds an appropriations and allocations section.

FISCAL NOTE REQUIRED

(See attached)



Approved: 05/29/21 *MAC*

130th MAINE LEGISLATURE

LD 1588

LR 890(02)

Resolve, To Convene a Working Group To Identify and Find Replacements for Certain Stigmatizing References throughout the Maine Revised Statutes and Government Publications

Fiscal Note for Bill as Amended by Committee Amendment *ACH-555*

Committee: Criminal Justice and Public Safety

Fiscal Note Required: Yes

Fiscal Note

	FY 2021-22	FY 2022-23	Projections FY 2023-24	Projections FY 2024-25
Net Cost (Savings)				
General Fund	\$11,400	\$0	\$0	\$0
Appropriations/Allocations				
General Fund	\$11,400	\$0	\$0	\$0

Fiscal Detail and Notes

Provides a one-time appropriation of \$11,400 in fiscal year 2021-22 to the Legislature's Office of Revisor of Statutes to contract with an outside entity to review Titles 22, 22-A, 25 and 34-A of the Maine Revised Statutes for stigmatizing language and to prepare a report to the Joint Standing Committee on Criminal Justice and Public Safety by January 15, 2022, with draft legislation to amend the laws to change the stigmatizing language to respectful language.

Any additional costs to the Departments of Health and Human Services, Public Safety and Corrections from the provisions of this bill are expected to be minor and can be absorbed within existing budgeted resources.