

# MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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# 130th MAINE LEGISLATURE

## FIRST SPECIAL SESSION-2021

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Legislative Document

No. 1588

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H.P. 1177

House of Representatives, April 27, 2021

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

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Reference to the Committee on Criminal Justice and Public Safety suggested and ordered printed.

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "R B. Hunt".

ROBERT B. HUNT  
Clerk

Presented by Representative PLUECKER of Warren.  
Cosponsored by Representatives: EVANGELOS of Friendship, HARNETT of Gardiner,  
NEWELL of the Passamaquoddy Tribe, WARREN of Hallowell, Senator: CARNEY of  
Cumberland.



1 Statutes and executive branch rules, forms, policies and publications: "convict," "offender,"  
2 "inmate," "prisoner" and "drug user." The working group is tasked with identifying the  
3 appropriate replacement terms to be used and considering the following terms as  
4 replacement options: "person who has committed a crime," "resident" or "person who uses  
5 drugs."

6 The working group includes at least one person each from the Department of  
7 Corrections, the Department of Public Safety, the Department of Health and Human  
8 Services and the Department of Agriculture, Conservation and Forestry. A member of the  
9 public with lived experience of incarceration, recovery or neurodivergence is selected by  
10 the members and invited to assist the working group.

11 By December 1, 2021, the Department of Corrections is required to provide a report  
12 with the working group's findings and recommendations to the Joint Standing Committee  
13 on Criminal Justice and Public Safety. The committee has the authority to introduce  
14 legislation in the Second Regular Session of the 130th Legislature based on the report.