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1	L.D. 2255
2	Date: 3/29/24 L.D. 2255 (Filing No. H-886)
3 .	HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES
4	Reproduced and distributed under the direction of the Clerk of the House.
5	STATE OF MAINE
6	HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
7	131ST LEGISLATURE
8	SECOND REGULAR SESSION
9 10 11	COMMITTEE AMENDMENT "A" to H.P. 1446, L.D. 2255, "Resolve, to Reestablish the Task Force on Accessibility to Appropriate Communication Methods for Deaf and Hard-of-hearing Patients"
12 13	Amend the resolve in section 2 in the 2nd line (page 1, line 18 in L.D.) by striking out the following: "10" and inserting the following: '13'
14 15	Amend the resolve in section 2 by striking out all of subsection 1 (page 1, lines 19 and 20 in L.D.) and inserting the following:
16 17 18	'1. Two members of the Senate appointed by the President of the Senate, including one member of the party holding the largest number of seats in the Legislature and one member of the party holding the 2nd largest number of seats in the Legislature;'
19 20	Amend the resolve in section 2 by striking out all of subsection 2 (page 1, lines 21 and 22 in L.D.) and inserting the following:
21 22 23 24	'2. Two members of the House of Representatives appointed by the Speaker of the House of Representatives, including one member of the party holding the largest number of seats in the Legislature and one member of the party holding the 2nd largest number of seats in the Legislature;'
25 26	Amend the resolve in section 2 in subsection 9 in the last line (page 2, line 3 in L.D.) by striking out the following: "and"
27	Amend the resolve in section 2 by inserting after subsection 9 the following:
28 29	'10. One member who is a certified deaf interpreter, appointed by the Commissioner of Health and Human Services; and'
30	Amend the resolve in section 2 by renumbering the subsections to read consecutively.
31	Amend the resolve by striking out all of section 3 and inserting the following:
32 33	'Sec. 3. Chairs. Resolved: That the first-named Senate member is the Senate chair and the first-named House of Representatives member is the House chair of the task force.'
34	Amend the resolve by inserting after section 6 the following:

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# **COMMITTEE AMENDMENT**

### COMMITTEE AMENDMENT "A" to H.P. 1446, L.D. 2255

'Sec. 7. Communication access real-time translation. Resolved: That the Legislative Council, to the extent possible, shall provide for communication access real-time translation at task force meetings.'

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

#### **SUMMARY**

This amendment does the following:

1. Replaces the member of the task force who is a member of the Senate who serves on the Joint Standing Committee on Health and Human Services with 2 members of the Senate, including one member of the party holding the largest number of seats in the Legislature and one member of the party holding the 2nd largest number of seats in the Legislature;

2. Replaces the member of the task force who is a member of the House of Representatives who serves on the Joint Standing Committee on Health and Human Services with 2 members of the House of Representatives, including one member of the party holding the largest number of seats in the Legislature and one member of the party holding the 2nd largest number of seats in the Legislature;

3. Adds a task force member who is a certified deaf interpreter; and

4. Adds language stating that the Legislative Council, to the extent possible, must provide for communication access real-time translation at task force meetings.

#### FISCAL NOTE REQUIRED

(See attached)

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## **COMMITTEE AMENDMENT**

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### **131st MAINE LEGISLATURE**

#### LD 2255

#### LR 3094(02)

Resolve, to Reestablish the Task Force on Accessibility to Appropriate Communication Methods for Deaf and Hard-of-hearing Patients

> Fiscal Note for Bill as Amended by Committee Amendment 'A' (H-886) Committee: Health and Human Services Fiscal Note Required: Yes

#### **Fiscal Note**

Legislative Cost/Study

#### Legislative Cost/Study

The general operating expenses of this study are projected to be \$2,520 in fiscal year 2023-24 and \$2,770 in fiscal year 2024-25. The Legislature's budget for the 2024-2025 biennium includes \$14,500 in each of fiscal years 2023-24 and 2024-25 for the costs of legislative studies, as well as \$38,909 of balances carried over from prior years for this purpose. Whether these amounts are sufficient to fund all studies will depend on the number of studies authorized by the Legislative Council and the Legislature. The additional costs of providing staffing assistance to the study during the interim can be absorbed utilizing existing budgeted staff resources.

#### **Fiscal Detail and Notes**

Any additional costs to the Department of Health and Human Services, the Department of Labor, the University of Maine System, the Maine Educational Center for the Deaf and Hard of Hearing and the Governor Baxter School for the Deaf and the Disability Rights Center to take part in a task force are expected to be minor and can be absorbed within existing budgeted resources.