

MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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LAWS
OF THE
STATE OF MAINE

AS PASSED BY THE
ONE HUNDRED AND ELEVENTH LEGISLATURE

SECOND SPECIAL SESSION

November 18, 1983

AND AT THE

SECOND REGULAR SESSION

January 4, 1984 to April 25, 1984

AND AT THE

THIRD SPECIAL SESSION

September 4, 1984 to September 11, 1984

PUBLISHED BY THE DIRECTOR OF LEGISLATIVE RESEARCH
IN ACCORDANCE WITH MAINE REVISED STATUTES
ANNOTATED, TITLE 3, SECTION 164, SUBSECTION 6.

J.S. McCarthy Co., Inc.
Augusta, Maine
1986

RESOLVES
OF THE
STATE OF MAINE

AS PASSED AT THE
THIRD SPECIAL SESSION

of the
ONE HUNDRED AND ELEVENTH LEGISLATURE

1983

Dated this _____ day of _____, 1984.

WITNESS:

RELEASOR:

STATE OF MAINE

By: _____
Commissioner of Conservation

Effective December 11, 1984.

CHAPTER 88

H.P. 1882 - L.D. 2484

RESOLVE, to Address Training and Employment Opportunities for Handicapped Persons Beyond School Age.

Emergency preamble. Whereas, Acts and resolves of the Legislature do not become effective until 90 days after adjournment unless enacted as emergencies; and

Whereas, the State provides Maine's handicapped children with a free and appropriate education through age 20; and

Whereas, the State has, through enactments of this and previous Legislatures, enumerated and supported the rights of all handicapped citizens to training, habilitation and employment in the least restrictive environment consistent with their needs and potential; and

Whereas, several hundreds of handicapped citizens are now exiting school systems across this State each year; and

Whereas, these individuals have the potential for more productive and independent adult lives, if afforded reasonable training opportunities; and

Whereas, the lack of training, employment and independent living opportunities for handicapped persons leaving the education system will result in unnecessary and expensive institutionalization, welfare-dependence, wasted human potential, lost ca-

capacity for gainful employment and additional stress to existing family and community support systems; and

Whereas, existing public and private resources are not adequate to meet the needs and potential of this population; and

Whereas, in the judgment of the Legislature, these facts create an emergency within the meaning of the Constitution of Maine and require the following legislation as immediately necessary for the preservation of the public peace, health and safety; now, therefore, be it

Select Committee; appointment. Resolved: That the Members of the 111th Legislature find that a coordinated effort utilizing the resources and expertise of both the public and private sectors is necessary in addressing this problem to the benefit of all citizens of Maine; and be it further

Select Committee formed. Resolved: That there shall be formed a Select Committee comprised of the following members:

1. The following members appointed by the Governor:

One representative of the Governor's Committee on Employment of the Handicapped; one representative of the Maine Committee on Problems of the Mentally Retarded, who shall be the parent of a handicapped person; one representative of the Governor's Mental Health Advisory Council, who shall not be a provider of mental health services; one representative of the State Planning Council on Developmental Disabilities; one representative of Sheltered Employment Association; one representative of the Maine Association for Directors of Services to Exceptional Children; one representative of Community Adult Education Program; one representative of the Maine Advisory Council on Vocational Education; one representative from the Advocates for the Developmentally Disabled, one representative from the Maine Job Training Council as established under the Federal Job Training Partnership Act; the Commissioner of Mental Health and Mental Retardation, or his designee; the Commissioner of Educational and Cultural Services, or his designee; the Commissioner of Human Services, or his designee; one representative from the Governor Baxter School for the Deaf; one member from the Maine Center for the Blind; and one member who shall serve as chairman and shall have a demonstrated interest in employment and training for handicapped citizens; and

2. The following additional members:

One member of the House of Representatives, appointed by the Speaker of the House of Representatives; and one member of the Senate, appointed by the President of the Senate; and be it further

Report. Resolved: That this Select Committee shall prepare and present a report, including any necessary legislation, to the Governor and to the Joint Standing Committees on Appropriations and Financial Affairs; Education; and Health and Institutional Services, no later than December 1, 1984. This report shall:

1. Document availability of training and education for handicapped young adults no longer eligible for public school programs due to having reached their 20th birthday;

2. Evaluate the ability of existing post-secondary education; employment and training programs; and other community-based resources to meet the needs of this population;

3. Identify innovative approaches, in Maine and elsewhere, which address the training needs of this population; and

4. Develop a 5-year plan which identifies:

A. Elements of a coordinated system of support services for handicapped young adults making the transition from school to community living;

B. Changes, should they be required, in legislative and regulatory policy that will promote optimal independence for this group; and

C. Recommendations for financing needed for new and expanded programming, including a cost-benefit analysis for additional investment of state funds; and be it further

Consultation. Resolved: That, in preparing its report, the select committee shall consult with other agencies and individuals who may have an interest in the needs of handicapped citizens; and be it further

Staff support. Resolved: That the Department of Mental Health and Mental Retardation shall provide

staff support to this committee, as necessary, in order that it complete its charge.

Emergency clause. In view of the emergency cited in the preamble, this resolve shall take effect when approved.

Effective September 19, 1984.