

MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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LAWS
OF THE
STATE OF MAINE

AS PASSED BY THE

ONE HUNDRED AND EIGHTEENTH LEGISLATURE

SECOND REGULAR SESSION
January 7, 1998 to March 31, 1998

SECOND SPECIAL SESSION
April 1, 1998 to April 9, 1998

THE GENERAL EFFECTIVE DATE FOR
SECOND REGULAR SESSION
NON-EMERGENCY LAWS IS
JUNE 30, 1998

SECOND SPECIAL SESSION
NON-EMERGENCY LAWS IS
JULY 9, 1998

PUBLISHED BY THE REVISOR OF STATUTES
IN ACCORDANCE WITH MAINE REVISED STATUTES ANNOTATED,
TITLE 3, SECTION 163-A, SUBSECTION 4.

J.S. McCarthy Company
Augusta, Maine
1997

receive reimbursement for travel and other necessary expenses for attendance at meetings of the task force upon application to the Executive Director of the Legislative Council. Other members are not entitled to reimbursement of expenses; and be it further

Sec. 7. Report. Resolved: That the task force shall submit a report together with any necessary implementing legislation to the joint standing committee of the Legislature having jurisdiction over taxation matters, with a copy to the Executive Director of the Legislative Council, no later than January 15, 1999. If the task force requires an extension, it may apply to the Legislative Council, which may grant the extension; and be it further

Sec. 8. Meetings. Resolved: That the task force may meet up to 6 times; and be it further

Sec. 9. Appropriation. Resolved: That the following funds are appropriated from the General Fund to carry out the purposes of this resolve.

1998-99

LEGISLATURE

**Task Force to Study
Telecommunications Taxation**

| | |
|---|---------|
| Personal Services | \$1,980 |
| All Other | 2,300 |
| Provides funds for the per diem and expenses of legislative members and miscellaneous costs of the Task Force to Study Telecommunications Taxation. | |

| | |
|--------------------|---------|
| LEGISLATURE | |
| TOTAL | \$4,280 |

See title page for effective date.

CHAPTER 122

H.P. 1632 - L.D. 2260

Resolve, Charging the Children's Cabinet Agencies to Support Efforts of Parents as First Teachers of Their Children

Preamble. Whereas, the State is committed to lifelong learning that begins at birth, so that all children can reach their highest potential; and

Whereas, it is clear that the first 3 years of life represent a critical starting point for the healthy development of children; and

Whereas, research has identified numerous activities that support positive early brain development so that young children are not deprived of crucial opportunities for learning that can never be recaptured; and

Whereas, parents and other caregivers, with the proper information and support, play a critical role in providing the supportive framework necessary for the development of young children; and

Whereas, planning and coordination of services for parents and other caregivers of young children by state and other public agencies is necessary so that available resources are used effectively and cooperatively; now, therefore, be it

Sec. 1. Fiscal plan. Resolved: That the Commissioner of Corrections, the Commissioner of Education, the Commissioner of Human Services, the Commissioner of Public Safety and the Commissioner of Mental Health, Mental Retardation and Substance Abuse Services, in this resolve called the "Children's Cabinet," shall develop a fiscal plan for the expansion of existing state-funded child and family support initiatives, including Healthy Families Maine, Head Start and Early Head Start, Child Development Services, Child Care and Communities for Children, as well as a fiscal plan for the expansion and support of other initiatives such as the Parents as Teachers Program, Parents Are Teachers, Too and the Maine Humanities Council program Born to Read; and be it further

Sec. 2. Core curriculum for caregivers. Resolved: That, within available resources:

1. The Children's Cabinet shall develop a core curriculum that will be available to all Maine parents and caregivers by 1999;
2. The Children's Cabinet shall develop a training program for all caregivers and providers based on the core curriculum; and
3. State-funded home visiting services for families with children 0 to 5 years of age shall provide this information to parents; and be it further

Sec. 3. Family support programs. Resolved: That the Children's Cabinet shall study the current family support programs available to parents, identify the need and develop a plan for the creation of additional family support programs, including the designation and support of family resource centers throughout Maine; and be it further

Sec. 4. Resolve 1997, c. 68, §8, amended. Resolved: That Resolve 1997, c. 68, §8 is amended to read:

Sec. 8. Meetings. Resolved: That the task force may meet up to 4 times prior to reporting in 1997 and an additional number of times determined necessary by the Children's Cabinet and the task force prior to reporting in 1998; and be it further

Sec. 5. Resolve 1997, c. 68, §9, amended. Resolved: That Resolve 1997, c. 68, §9 is amended by adding after the first sentence a new sentence to read:

In addition, the task force shall submit a follow-up report to the Joint Standing Committee on Education and Cultural Affairs and the Governor, including any necessary implementing legislation, no later than December 15, 1998.

; and be it further

Sec. 6. Appropriation. Resolved: That the following funds are appropriated from the General Fund to carry out the purposes of this resolve.

1998-99

LEGISLATURE

Task Force to Study Strategies to Support Parents as Children's First Teachers

| | |
|-------------------|-------|
| Personal Services | \$440 |
| All Other | 900 |

Provides for the per diem and expenses of legislative members, and miscellaneous costs, including printing, of the Task Force to Study Strategies to Support Parents as Children's First Teachers.

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TOTAL \$1,340

; and be it further

Sec. 7. Retroactivity. Resolved: That those sections of this resolve that amend Resolve 1997, chapter 68, sections 8 and 9 are retroactive to December 1, 1997.

See title page for effective date.

CHAPTER 123

H.P. 1432 - L.D. 1996

Resolve, Requiring a Report on the Provision of Medicaid Services

Sec. 1. Report. Resolved: That the Department of Human Services, with the cooperation of the Department of Education, shall undertake an audit of and shall prepare a report on services provided in or by school administrative units, state intermediate educational units and regional sites of the Child Development Services System under the Maine Revised Statutes, Title 20-A, chapter 307-A, that are reimbursed through the Medicaid program. The report must include information on the qualifications of professionals and others providing services, reimbursement rates and policies regarding the use of specialists. The department shall provide this report and any recommendations to the joint standing committees of the Legislature having jurisdiction over education and cultural affairs and health and human services matters by January 1, 1999.

See title page for effective date.

CHAPTER 124

H.P. 1556 - L.D. 2185

Resolve, to Provide Accountability in the Probation System

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 Legislature recognizes the immediate need to address the issue of adequate staffing and resources in the Department of Corrections probation services to ensure the safety of the department staff and the public; and

Whereas, it is the intent of the Legislature that the implementation of new probation officer positions reflects the Department of Corrections' needs and ability to train and effectively employ the new probation officers; 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

Sec. 1. Study group established. Resolved: That the Commissioner of Corrections shall