

# MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

The following document is provided by the  
**LAW AND LEGISLATIVE DIGITAL LIBRARY**  
at the Maine State Law and Legislative Reference Library  
<http://legislature.maine.gov/lawlib>



Reproduced from electronic originals  
(may include minor formatting differences from printed original)

**LAWS**  
**OF THE**  
**STATE OF MAINE**

**AS PASSED BY THE**

**ONE HUNDRED AND TWENTY-THIRD LEGISLATURE**

**SECOND REGULAR SESSION**  
**January 2, 2008 to March 31, 2008**

**FIRST SPECIAL SESSION**  
**April 1, 2008 to April 18, 2008**

**THE GENERAL EFFECTIVE DATE FOR**  
**SECOND REGULAR SESSION**  
**NON-EMERGENCY LAWS IS**  
**JUNE 30, 2008**

**THE GENERAL EFFECTIVE DATE FOR**  
**FIRST SPECIAL SESSION**  
**NON-EMERGENCY LAWS IS**  
**JULY 18, 2008**

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

---

---

**Penmor Lithographers**  
**Lewiston, Maine**  
**2008**

---

---

## JOINT STUDY ORDERS

---

---

### JOINT STUDY ORDER TO ESTABLISH THE WORKING GROUP TO STUDY THE EFFECTIVENESS AND TIMELINESS OF EARLY IDENTIFICATION AND INTERVENTION FOR CHILDREN WITH HEARING LOSS IN MAINE

**H.P. 1513**

**ORDERED**, the Senate concurring, that the Working Group To Study the Effectiveness and Timeliness of Early Identification and Intervention for Children with Hearing Loss in Maine is established as follows.

**1. Working Group To Study the Effectiveness and Timeliness of Early Identification and Intervention for Children with Hearing Loss in Maine established.** The Working Group To Study the Effectiveness and Timeliness of Early Identification and Intervention for Children with Hearing Loss in Maine, referred to in this order as "the working group," is established.

**2. Membership.** The working group consists of 17 members, appointed as follows:

A. The following members appointed by the President of the Senate:

- (1) Three members of the Senate. When making the appointments, the President of the Senate shall give preference to members of each of the 2 major political parties and to members of the Joint Standing Committee on Education and Cultural Affairs and to members of the Joint Standing Committee on Health and Human Services;
- (2) One representative of the Maine Academy of Audiology;
- (3) One representative of the Department of Education, Child Development Services;
- (4) One representative of the Warren Center for Communication and Learning; and
- (5) One representative of the Maine chapter of the American Academy of Pediatrics; and

B. The following members appointed by the Speaker of the House:

- (1) Six members of the House of Representatives. When making the appointments, the

Speaker of the House shall give preference to members of each of the 2 major political parties and to members of the Joint Standing Committee on Education and Cultural Affairs and to members of the Joint Standing Committee on Health and Human Services;

(2) One representative of the Maine Speech-Language-Hearing Association;

(3) The Director of Statewide Educational Services for the Maine Educational Center for the Deaf and Hard of Hearing or the director's designee;

(4) The Executive Director of hear ME now! or the director's designee; and

(5) One representative of the Maine Society of Otolaryngology.

**3. Working group chairs.** The first-named Senator is the Senate chair of the working group and the first-named member of the House is the House chair of the working group.

**4. Appointments.** Those persons appointed in 2007 by the President of the Senate and the Speaker of the House to serve as members of the Working Group To Study the Effectiveness and Timeliness of Early Identification and Intervention for Children with Hearing Loss in Maine as established by Resolve 2007, chapter 133, including the Senator and the member of the House appointed to serve as the chairs of that study, are appointed to serve as members of the working group established in this order.

**5. Duties.** The working group shall examine issues of access to timely and accurate diagnosis of hearing loss by 3 months of age and review and assess the processes by which families are informed of their options for communication and for finding providers in the State. In examining these issues, the working group shall specifically examine:

A. The definition of a "highly qualified provider" in various professions serving this population;

B. The operation and effectiveness of existing programs and resources for families who have children who have been identified as having hearing loss;

C. Opportunities for coordination to maximize the effects of available resources;

D. The need for state or private programs to supplement state programs or to enable existing programs to serve a greater portion of those eligible;

E. Techniques to use resources in new ways or new combinations that have the potential for easing the burden on current providers and enhancing the training of current and new providers to enable equal access to highly qualified providers to all children statewide;

F. The effects of limited resources for diagnostic testing and poor reimbursement rates; and

G. Programs and techniques that are employed in other states or countries.

**6. Staff assistance.** The Legislative Council shall provide necessary staffing services to the working group.

**7. Meetings and report.** The working group is authorized to meet up to 4 times during the Second Regular Session of the 123rd Legislature and shall submit its report, including suggested legislation, to the Second Regular Session of the 123rd Legislature no later than March 3, 2008.

**8. Compensation.** The legislative members of the working group are entitled to reimbursement for travel and other necessary expenses related to their attendance at authorized meetings of the working group that are held on days in which the Legislature is not in session. Public members not otherwise compensated by their employers or other entities that they represent are entitled to receive reimbursement of necessary expenses and, upon a demonstration of financial hardship, a per diem equal to the legislative per diem for their attendance at any authorized meetings of the working group.

**9. Outside funding.** The working group is funded by outside funding received and accepted by the Legislative Council in 2007 for the original purposes of funding the Working Group To Study the Effectiveness and Timeliness of Early Identification and Intervention for Children with Hearing Loss in Maine as established by Resolve 2007, chapter 133.

**Passed by the House of Representatives January 8, 2008 and the Senate January 9, 2008.**

---

**JOINT ORDER, TO EXTEND THE  
REPORTING DEADLINE OF THE  
COMMITTEE TO STUDY APPROPRIATE  
FUNDING OF THE STATE POLICE**

**S.P. 812**

**ORDERED**, the House concurring, that the Committee To Study Appropriate Funding of the State Police, established by S.P. 725 during the First Regular Session of the 123rd Legislature, shall convene one meeting no later than January 13, 2008 for the purpose of finalizing a report that includes findings and recommendations, including suggested legislation, to the Joint Standing Committee on Transportation and the Joint Standing Committee on Criminal Justice and Public Safety. Pursuant to Joint Rule 353, the study committee is not authorized to introduce legislation. Upon receipt of the report, the Joint Standing Committee on Transportation may, pursuant to Joint Rule 353, introduce a bill during the session in which the report is submitted to implement its recommendations on matters relating to the report.

**Passed by the Senate January 3, 2008 and the  
House of Representatives January 8, 2008.**

---

**JOINT STUDY ORDER AUTHORIZING  
THE JOINT STANDING COMMITTEE ON  
CRIMINAL JUSTICE AND PUBLIC  
SAFETY TO STUDY ISSUES RELATED TO  
SEX OFFENDER REGISTRATION**

**H.P. 1665**

**ORDERED**, the Senate concurring, that the Joint Standing Committee on Criminal Justice and Public Safety, referred to in this order as "the committee," shall meet to study issues related to sex offender registration laws as follows.

**1. Convening of committee; meetings.** The chairs of the committee shall call and convene the first meeting of the committee, which must be no later than June 15, 2008. The committee may meet 4 times.

**2. Duties.** The committee's duties include:

A. Using other states' models for tiered systems based on risk and other examples of sex offender classification and assessment and creating a system of classification based on risk to be applied to

each person required to register under the Sex Offender Registration and Notification Act of 1999 in order to classify registrants based on their risk of reoffending and the degree of likelihood that they pose a danger to the community;

B. Creating processes to apply the risk assessment and evaluate its use so that due process concerns are met and each risk assessment analysis provides useful information to those in the criminal justice system and others who receive that information; and

C. Reviewing the current list of registerable sex offenses and determining if changes to the current Maine sex offender registry and to the Maine sex offender registry website should be made.

**3. Staff assistance.** The Legislative Council shall provide necessary staffing services to the committee.

**4. Compensation.** Pursuant to Joint Rule 353, members of the committee are entitled to receive the legislative per diem and reimbursement for travel and other necessary expenses related to their attendance at authorized meetings of the committee.

**5. Report.** No later than November 5, 2008, the committee shall submit a report that includes its findings and recommendations, including suggested legislation, for the consideration of the First Regular Session of the 124th Legislature. Pursuant to Joint Rule 353, the committee is not authorized to introduce legislation. The joint standing committee of the 124th Legislature having jurisdiction over criminal justice and public safety matters may, pursuant to Joint Rule 353, introduce a bill during the First Regular Session of the 124th Legislature to implement the recommendations on matters relating to the study.

**Passed by the House of Representatives April 8, 2008 and the Senate April 9, 2008.**

---

**JOINT STUDY ORDER, AUTHORIZING  
THE STUDY OF ISSUES RELATED TO SEX  
OFFENDER REGISTRATION**

**S.P. 933**

**ORDERED,** the House concurring, that the Legislature intends that this order supercede House Paper 1665; and be it further

**ORDERED,** the House concurring, that the Joint Standing Committee on Criminal Justice and Public Safety, referred to in this order as "the committee," shall meet to study issues related to sex offender registration laws as follows.

**1. Convening of committee; meetings.** The chairs of the committee shall call and convene the first meeting of the committee, which may be no later than June 15, 2008. The committee may meet 3 times.

**2. Duties.** The committee's duties include:

A. Using other states' models for tiered systems based on risk and other examples of sex offender classification and assessment and creating a system of classification based on risk to be applied to each person required to register under the Sex Offender Registration and Notification Act of 1999 in order to classify registrants based on their risk of reoffending and the degree of likelihood that they pose a danger to the community;

B. Creating processes to apply the risk assessment and evaluate its use so that due process concerns are met and each risk assessment analysis provides useful information to those in the criminal justice system and others who receive that information; and

C. Reviewing the current list of registerable sex offenses and determining if changes to the current Maine sex offender registry and to the Maine sex offender registry website should be made.

**3. Staff assistance.** The Legislative Council shall provide staffing services to the committee.

**4. Compensation.** Pursuant to Joint Rule 353, members of the committee are entitled to receive the legislative per diem and reimbursement for travel and other necessary expenses related to their attendance at authorized meetings of the committee.

**5. Report.** No later than November 5, 2008, the committee shall submit a report that includes its findings and recommendations, including suggested legislation, for the consideration of the First Regular Session of the 124th Legislature. Pursuant to Joint Rule 353, the committee is not authorized to introduce legislation. The joint standing committee of the 124th Legislature having jurisdiction over criminal justice and public safety matters may, pursuant to Joint Rule

353, introduce a bill during the First Regular Session of the 124th Legislature to implement the recommendations on matters relating to the study.

**Passed by the Senate April 18, 2008 and the House of Representatives April 18, 2008.**

---

---