

MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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LAWS
OF THE
STATE OF MAINE

AS PASSED BY THE

ONE HUNDRED AND TWENTY-FIFTH LEGISLATURE

FIRST REGULAR SESSION
December 1, 2010 to June 29, 2011

THE GENERAL EFFECTIVE DATE FOR
FIRST REGULAR SESSION
NON-EMERGENCY LAWS IS
SEPTEMBER 28, 2011

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

Augusta, Maine
2011

at least one member from each of the 2 parties holding the largest number of seats in the Legislature;

3. Two members appointed by the Chief Justice of the Supreme Judicial Court;

4. One member appointed by the Attorney General; and

5. One representative of the Maine Trial Lawyers Association designated by the Maine Trial Lawyers Association; and be it further

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 commission; and be it further

Sec. 4. Appointments; convening of commission. Resolved: That all appointments must be made no later than 30 days following the effective date of this resolve. The appointing authorities shall notify the Executive Director of the Legislative Council once all appointments have been completed. After appointment of all members, the chairs shall call and convene the first meeting of the commission. If 30 days or more after the effective date of this resolve a majority of but not all appointments have been made, the chairs may request authority and the Legislative Council may grant authority for the commission to meet and conduct its business; and be it further

Sec. 5. Participation. Resolved: That the commission shall seek the participation of the Maine State Bar Association, the Maine Prosecutors Association, Pine Tree Legal Assistance, the Maine Commission on Indigent Legal Services and the Maine Association of Criminal Defense Lawyers and may seek the participation of any other individuals or organizations whose participation or input may be helpful; and be it further

Sec. 6. Duties. Resolved: That the commission shall study the priority and timing of judicial proceedings in state courts including, but not limited to, judicial proceedings that require priority treatment pursuant to statute; and be it further

Sec. 7. Staff assistance. Resolved: That the Legislative Council shall provide necessary staffing services to the commission; and be it further

Sec. 8. Reimbursement. Resolved: That, notwithstanding Joint Rule 353, public members of the commission are not entitled to reimbursement for expenses; and be it further

Sec. 9. Report. Resolved: That, no later than December 7, 2011, the commission shall submit a report that includes its findings and recommendations, including suggested legislation, to the Joint Standing Committee on Judiciary. The Joint Standing Committee on Judiciary is authorized to introduce a bill related

to the subject matter of the report to the Second Regular Session of the 125th Legislature.

See title page for effective date.

CHAPTER 105

H.P. 1165 - L.D. 1582

Resolve, Creating the Advisory Committee on Maine's Health Insurance Exchange

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

Whereas, to be eligible for health insurance exchange funding, the Federal Government requires the states to make substantial progress in the following core areas: background research; stakeholder consultation; legislative and regulatory action; governance; program integration; exchange information technology systems; financial management; oversight and program integrity; health insurance market reforms; providing assistance to individuals and small businesses, coverage appeals and complaints; and business operation; and

Whereas, the deadlines for applying for the next round of federal funding are September 30, 2011 and December 31, 2011; 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. Advisory Committee on Maine's Health Insurance Exchange established. Resolved: That the Advisory Committee on Maine's Health Insurance Exchange, referred to in this resolve as "the advisory committee," is established to develop and provide recommendations, including suggested enabling legislation, to the Governor and the Legislature for a health insurance exchange that addresses the core areas specified by the Federal Government and consider the views of the health care industry and other stakeholders; and be it further

Sec. 2. Membership of the advisory committee. Resolved: That the advisory committee consists of no more than 9 members appointed by the Governor, after consultation with the chairs and lead minority members of the Joint Standing Committee on Insurance and Financial Services. The Governor shall appoint members that represent the diverse interests of stakeholders related to the establishment of a health insurance exchange. The members must include repre-

sentatives of key constituencies, including, but not limited to, health care providers, insurers, health insurance producers, consumers, employers with more than 50 employees, employers with 50 or fewer employees and the Board of Trustees of Dirigo Health. Prior to making appointments to the advisory committee, the Governor shall seek nominations from statewide associations representing the interests of stakeholders identified in this section and other entities as appropriate; and be it further

Sec. 3. Chair. Resolved: That the Governor shall appoint a chair from among the members of the advisory committee; and be it further

Sec. 4. Duties of the advisory committee. Resolved: That the advisory committee shall:

1. Review and consider the recommendations issued by the 124th Legislature's Joint Select Committee on Health Care Reform with respect to a health insurance exchange;

2. Consider the rules issued by the Federal Government subsequent to the passage of the Patient Protection and Affordable Care Act and their impact on the creation and operations of a health insurance exchange;

3. In an effort to create efficiencies, review the work products of other states to consider what elements of their health insurance exchange activities might be used in this State;

4. Establish technical committees or seek the advice of technical experts when necessary to execute the duties included in this resolve; and

5. Seek input from and report regularly to legislative leadership, the Joint Standing Committee on Insurance and Financial Services and the Governor's office throughout the advisory committee's deliberations; and be it further

Sec. 5. Meetings. Resolved: That meetings of the advisory committee must be conducted in public in accordance with the Maine Revised Statutes, Title 1, chapter 13. The advisory committee shall provide notice of its meetings to the Joint Standing Committee on Insurance and Financial Services; and be it further

Sec. 6. Consultation with Legislature. Resolved: That the Joint Standing Committee on Insurance and Financial Services is authorized to hold 3 meetings before the Second Regular Session of the 125th Legislature for the purpose of consulting with the advisory committee; and be it further

Sec. 7. Staffing. Resolved: That Dirigo Health shall provide staffing services to the advisory committee. As necessary, the Department of Professional and Financial Regulation, Bureau of Insurance; the Department of Administrative and Financial Services, Office of Information Technology; the Department

of Health and Human Services; and the State Coordinator for Health Information Technology shall also provide staffing assistance to the advisory committee; and be it further

Sec. 8. Report. Resolved: That the advisory committee shall submit a report, including its recommendations and suggested legislation, to the Governor and the Joint Standing Committee on Insurance and Financial Services no later than September 1, 2011.

Emergency clause. In view of the emergency cited in the preamble, this legislation takes effect when approved.

Effective July 6, 2011.

CHAPTER 106

S.P. 219 - L.D. 790

Resolve, To Foster Energy Efficiency Improvements and Other Needed Renovations at Residential Care Facilities Funded by MaineCare

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

Whereas, energy efficiency improvements and other capital expenditures at residential care facilities funded by MaineCare require approval; and

Whereas, in order for residential care facilities to receive reimbursement for energy efficiency improvements and other capital expenditures, this resolve must take effect immediately; 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. Department rules governing reimbursement for energy efficiency improvements and other capital expenditures at MaineCare-funded residential care facilities. Resolved: That the Department of Health and Human Services shall amend its rules governing principles of reimbursement for residential care facilities funded by MaineCare to permit those facilities, without a requirement of prior approval, to receive fixed or capital cost reimbursement for new construction, acquisitions, equipment, renovations or other improvements when the aggregate capital expenditure does not exceed \$350,000 in one fiscal year. Capital expenditures for energy efficiency improvements, for replacement