

128th MAINE LEGISLATURE

FIRST REGULAR SESSION-2017

Legislative Document

No. 676

H.P. 467

House of Representatives, February 28, 2017

Resolve, To Study the Development of a Behavioral Health Unit at the Cumberland County Jail

Reference to the Committee on Criminal Justice and Public Safety suggested and ordered printed.

R(+ B. Hunt

ROBERT B. HUNT Clerk

Presented by Representative FARNSWORTH of Portland. Cosponsored by Senator CHIPMAN of Cumberland and Representatives: BRYANT of Windham, COOPER of Yarmouth, DENNO of Cumberland, FAY of Raymond, MOONEN of Portland, TALBOT ROSS of Portland.

1 Sec. 1. Department of Health and Human Services, Department of Corrections and Cumberland County Sheriff's Office to study development 2 3 of behavioral health unit at the Cumberland County Jail. Resolved: That the Department of Health and Human Services, the Department of Corrections and the 4 Cumberland County Sheriff's Office shall jointly study the development of a behavioral 5 health unit at the Cumberland County Jail. The study must consider the most effective 6 way of housing prisoners with behavioral issues at the Cumberland County Jail and 7 8 providing the prisoners with support, including substance abuse and mental health 9 services and a diversion program to allow for the rehabilitation of the prisoners, and make a recommendation for the development of the behavioral health unit; and be it further 10

11 Sec. 2. Report. Resolved: That the Department of Health and Human Services, 12 the Department of Corrections and the Cumberland County Sheriff's Office shall submit a joint report and recommendations, including recommended legislation, resulting from 13 14 the study under section 1 to the Joint Standing Committee on Health and Human Services 15 and the Joint Standing Committee on Criminal Justice and Public Safety no later than 16 December 6, 2017. The Joint Standing Committee on Health and Human Services and the Joint Standing Committee on Criminal Justice and Public Safety may report out 17 18 legislation based upon the study and recommendations to the Second Regular Session of 19 the 128th Legislature.

SUMMARY

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21 This resolve directs the Department of Health and Human Services, the Department 22 of Corrections and the Cumberland County Sheriff's Office to jointly study and 23 recommend a proposal for the development of a behavioral health unit at the Cumberland 24 County Jail to provide support such as substance abuse and mental health services and a diversion program to allow for the rehabilitation of prisoners with behavioral issues. This 25 resolve directs the Department of Health and Human Services, the Department of 26 27 Corrections and the Cumberland County Sheriff's Office to submit the results of the 28 study along with recommendations to the Joint Standing Committee on Health and 29 Human Services and the Joint Standing Committee on Criminal Justice and Public Safety, who may report out legislation to the Second Regular Session of the 128th Legislature. 30