

STATE OF MAINE

—
IN THE YEAR OF OUR LORD
TWO THOUSAND TWENTY-SIX

—
H.P. 482 - L.D. 740

**Resolve, to Study Methods for Improving Youth Community Supervision
and Increasing Juvenile Diversion from Formal Judicial Processing**

Sec. 1. Department of Corrections to convene task force. Resolved: That the Department of Corrections shall convene a task force, referred to in this resolve as "the task force," to study methods for diverting youths safely from formal judicial processing and to recommend improvements to existing community supervision practices.

Sec. 2. Task force members. Resolved: That the Commissioner of Corrections shall appoint the following 12 members to the task force:

1. One member who is a regional correctional administrator within the Department of Corrections;
2. One member who is a regional correctional manager within the Department of Corrections;
3. One member who is a juvenile community corrections officer within the Department of Corrections;
4. One member with expertise in youth development and children's behavioral health within the Department of Health and Human Services;
5. One member who is an active, active retired or retired judge or justice with experience in the juvenile justice system, recommended by the Chief Justice of the Supreme Judicial Court;
6. One member who is a prosecutor with experience in the juvenile justice system;
7. One member who is a defense attorney with experience in the juvenile justice system;
8. One member with experience in youth development and juvenile justice data analysis and research within the University of Maine System;
9. One member from a community-based program or organization designed to divert youth from the juvenile justice system;
10. One member with expertise and experience in youth law and policy development;

11. One member who has personal experience with the juvenile justice system; and
12. One member who is related to a youth who has been involved in the juvenile justice system.

Sec. 3. Duties. Resolved: That the task force shall:

1. Identify, describe and collect data on diversion of youth from Department of Corrections supervision prior to formal court involvement, including no further action determinations and informal adjustments;
2. Identify obstacles and improvements to diversions that will help ensure the Department of Corrections is able to divert youths from the formal juvenile court process when appropriate;
3. To the extent possible, establish at least one pilot site to design and implement methods for diverting youths from the juvenile justice system, with a particular focus on increasing diversion from Department of Corrections supervision and court involvement; and
4. To the extent possible and appropriate, develop and implement a family-engaged case planning process for all youth under Department of Corrections supervision.

Sec. 4. Update. Resolved: That, no later than January 1, 2028, the Commissioner of Corrections shall provide an update to the joint standing committee of the Legislature having jurisdiction over criminal justice and public safety matters on the work of the task force. The joint standing committee may report out legislation based on the update to the Second Regular Session of the 133rd Legislature.