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Legislative Document

No. 1281

H.P. 923

House of Representatives, March 14, 2019

**Resolve, To Create a Committee To Explore Regional Cooperation
for Affordable Health Insurance**

Reference to the Committee on Health Coverage, Insurance and Financial Services
suggested and ordered printed.

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Robert B. Hunt".

ROBERT B. HUNT
Clerk

Presented by Representative TEPLER of Topsham.
Cosponsored by Senator FOLEY of York and
Representatives: BLIER of Buxton, BROOKS of Lewiston, FOLEY of Biddeford, GATTINE
of Westbrook, PERRY of Calais, Senators: BREEN of Cumberland, GRATWICK of
Penobscot, SANBORN, H. of Cumberland.

1 **Sec. 1. Committee established. Resolved:** That the Committee To Explore
2 Regional Cooperation for Affordable Health Insurance, referred to in this resolve as "the
3 committee," is established.

4 **Sec. 2. Committee membership. Resolved:** That, notwithstanding Joint Rule
5 353, the committee consists of 6 members appointed as follows:

- 6 1. One member of the Senate appointed by the President of the Senate;
- 7 2. One member of the House of Representatives appointed by the Speaker of the
8 House;
- 9 3. The Commissioner of Health and Human Services, or the commissioner's
10 designee;
- 11 4. The Superintendent of Insurance, or the superintendent's designee;
- 12 5. The Executive Director of the Maine Health Data Organization, or the executive
13 director's designee; and
- 14 6. The Executive Director of Maine Consumers for Affordable Health Care, or the
15 executive director's designee.

16 The member of the Senate and the member of the House of Representatives
17 appointed under this section must represent different geographical areas of the State.

18 **Sec. 3. Chairs. Resolved:** That the Senate member is the Senate chair and the
19 House of Representatives member is the House chair of the committee.

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

28 **Sec. 5. Duties. Resolved:** That the committee shall explore providing a more
29 affordable health insurance option to middle-income individuals and small businesses.
30 The committee shall:

- 31 1. Contact relevant government representatives in all New England states and inquire
32 as to their interest in working together to create a nonprofit health insurance cooperative.
33 If fewer than 3 states respond with interest, the committee shall reach out to Mid-Atlantic
34 states; and

