



128th MAINE LEGISLATURE

FIRST REGULAR SESSION-2017

Legislative Document

No. 1563

S.P. 547

In Senate, May 2, 2017

Resolve, To Establish the Maine Health Advisory Committee

(AFTER DEADLINE)

(EMERGENCY)

Approved for introduction by a majority of the Legislative Council pursuant to Joint Rule 205.

Reference to the Committee on Health and Human Services suggested and ordered printed.

A handwritten signature in cursive script, reading 'Heather J.R. Priest'.

HEATHER J.R. PRIEST
Secretary of the Senate

Presented by Senator GRATWICK of Penobscot.
Cosponsored by Representative TUCKER of Brunswick and
Senators: DAVIS of Piscataquis, DOW of Lincoln, LIBBY of Androscoggin, SAVIELLO of
Franklin, Representatives: CAMPBELL of Orrington, GRANT of Gardiner, MARTIN of Eagle
Lake.

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

3 **Whereas,** the Maine Health Advisory Committee must be established to advise the
4 Legislature regarding the interests of Maine's citizens and businesses with respect to the
5 delivery of health care in the State; and

6 **Whereas,** the work of the advisory committee must be initiated before the 90-day
7 period expires in order that it may be completed and a report submitted in time for
8 submission to the next legislative session; and

9 **Whereas,** in the judgment of the Legislature, these facts create an emergency within
10 the meaning of the Constitution of Maine and require the following legislation as
11 immediately necessary for the preservation of the public peace, health and safety; now,
12 therefore, be it

13 **Sec. 1. Advisory committee established. Resolved:** That, notwithstanding
14 Joint Rule 353, the Maine Health Advisory Committee, referred to in this resolve as "the
15 advisory committee," is established; and be it further

16 **Sec. 2. Advisory committee membership. Resolved:** That the advisory
17 committee consists of 15 members as follows:

18 1. The following 5 members of the Legislature, of whom one must serve on the Joint
19 Standing Committee on Insurance and Financial Services and one must serve on either
20 the Joint Standing Committee on Health and Human Services or the Joint Standing
21 Committee on Appropriations and Financial Affairs:

22 A. Two members of the Senate, appointed by the President of the Senate, including
23 one member recommended by the Senate Minority Leader; and

24 B. Three members of the House of Representatives, appointed by the Speaker of the
25 House of Representatives, including one member recommended by the House
26 Minority Leader;

27 2. One person representing the insurance industry, appointed by the President of the
28 Senate;

29 3. One person who is an advocate for enrolling hard-to-reach populations in health
30 insurance, including individuals with mental health or substance use disorders, appointed
31 by the President of the Senate;

32 4. One person representing hospitals or other health care facilities in the State,
33 appointed by the President of the Senate;

34 5. One person representing health care providers, appointed by the Speaker of the
35 House of Representatives;

36 6. One person representing a health care advocacy group, appointed by the Speaker
37 of the House of Representatives;

1 7. One person who has expertise in health economics, appointed by the President of
2 the Senate;

3 8. One person who has expertise in statistics, polling and data analysis, appointed by
4 the President of the Senate;

5 9. The Superintendent of Insurance, or the superintendent's designee;

6 10. The Commissioner of Health and Human Services, or the commissioner's
7 designee; and

8 11. The executive director of the division of employee health and benefits within the
9 Department of Administrative and Financial Services, Bureau of Human Resources; and
10 be it further

11 **Sec. 3. Chairs. Resolved:** That the first-named Senate member is the Senate
12 chair and the first-named House of Representatives member is the House chair of the
13 advisory committee; and be it further

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

22 **Sec. 5. Duties. Resolved:** That the advisory committee shall study health care
23 issues, including but not limited to the issues of quality, affordability and accessibility of
24 health care throughout the State; the prevention of illness; fairness and equity of health
25 care delivery and accessibility in different geographic regions of the State; various
26 funding options; and methods of cost containment. Through the use of public meetings,
27 questionnaires, polling and other sampling techniques, the advisory committee shall
28 solicit information and concerns from the public. The advisory committee shall review
29 strategies employed by other states and, based on the information it gathers, shall develop
30 recommendations to present to the Legislature regarding the delivery and financing of
31 health care in the State; and be it further

32 **Sec. 6. Meetings. Resolved:** That the advisory committee shall hold 6 meetings,
33 4 of which must be held at geographically diverse locations throughout the State.
34 Meetings of the advisory committee are public proceedings as provided by the Maine
35 Revised Statutes, Title 1, chapter 13, subchapter 1; and be it further

36 **Sec. 7. Staff assistance. Resolved:** That the Legislative Council shall provide
37 necessary staffing services to the advisory committee; and be it further

38 **Sec. 8. Report. Resolved:** That, no later than December 31, 2017, the advisory
39 committee shall submit a report for presentation to the Joint Standing Committee on

1 Health and Human Services during the Second Regular Session of the 128th Legislature
2 that includes:

3 1. A review and an evaluation of the continuation of the advisory committee,
4 including the staffing and funding needs of such an advisory committee, and
5 recommendations regarding the advisability of establishing an ongoing advisory
6 committee in the Maine Revised Statutes; and

7 2. Recommendations for any changes in policy or law that would improve the
8 delivery of health care for citizens and businesses in the State.

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

11 **SUMMARY**

12 This resolve establishes the Maine Health Advisory Committee.