



131st MAINE LEGISLATURE

FIRST SPECIAL SESSION-2023

Legislative Document

No. 1469

S.P. 588

In Senate, April 5, 2023

**Resolve, to Sufficiently Staff Overnight Behavioral Health Crisis
Facilities**

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

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'D M Grant'.

DAREK M. GRANT
Secretary of the Senate

Presented by Senator STEWART of Aroostook.
Cosponsored by Senators: FARRIN of Somerset, MOORE of Washington, Representative:
JAVNER of Chester.

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Sec. 1. Department of Health and Human Services to establish overnight behavioral health crisis facility staffing levels. Resolved: That the Department of Health and Human Services shall adopt rules requiring a facility providing overnight behavioral health crisis services under rule Chapter 101: MaineCare Benefits Manual, Chapter II, Section 65, Behavioral Health Services, to establish staffing ratios based on a clinical assessment of the acuity of the residential milieu and not fewer than:

1. One staff person to every 3 clients between the hours of 7 a.m. to 7 p.m.; and
2. One staff person to every 4 clients between the hours of 7 p.m. to 7 a.m.

Rules adopted pursuant to this section are routine technical rules as defined in the Maine Revised Statutes, Title 5, chapter 375, subchapter 2-A.

SUMMARY

This bill requires the Department of Health and Human Services to adopt rules requiring a facility providing overnight behavioral health crisis services to establish staffing ratios based on a clinical assessment of the acuity of the residential milieu and not fewer than one staff person to every 3 clients between the hours of 7 a.m. to 7 p.m. and one staff person to every 4 clients between the hours of 7 p.m. to 7 a.m.