

Date:

(Filing No. H-)

CRIMINAL JUSTICE AND PUBLIC SAFETY

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**STATE OF MAINE
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
132ND LEGISLATURE
FIRST SPECIAL SESSION**

COMMITTEE AMENDMENT “ ” to H.P. 351, L.D. 532, “An Act to Protect Health Care Workers by Addressing Assaults in Health Care Settings”

Amend the bill by striking out the title and substituting the following:

'Resolve, to Study Assaults on Health Care Workers'

Amend the bill by striking out everything after the title and inserting the following:

'Sec. 1. Commissioner of Health and Human Services to convene working group. Resolved: That the Commissioner of Health and Human Services shall convene a working group to study assaults on health care workers in health care facilities.

Sec. 2. Membership. Resolved: That the working group convened under section 1 must include, but is not limited to, the following members:

1. The Commissioner of Health and Human Services or the commissioner's designee;
2. A representative of a statewide association representing hospitals;
3. A representative of a statewide organization representing entities that provide long-term care services;
4. A representative of a statewide organization representing entities that provide outpatient care services;
5. A representative of a statewide organization representing entities that provide mental health services;
6. A representative of a statewide association representing prosecutors;
7. A representative of a statewide association representing criminal defense lawyers;
8. A representative of a statewide association representing law enforcement officers;
- and
9. A representative of a statewide organization representing health care workers.

Sec. 3. Duties of working group. Resolved: That the working group convened under section 1 must include the following topics in its study:

1. A review of current data on assaults on health care workers in health care facilities in the State;
2. Current efforts by health care entities to prevent assaults on health care workers; and
3. Best practices to deter assaults on health care workers.

Sec. 4. Report. Resolved: That, by January 1, 2026, the Commissioner of Health and Human Services shall submit a report containing the findings and recommendations of the working group under section 1, including proposed legislation, to the Joint Standing Committee on Criminal Justice and Public Safety and the Joint Standing Committee on Health and Human Services. The Joint Standing Committee on Criminal Justice and Public Safety may report out legislation based on the report to the Second Regular Session of the 132nd Legislature.'

Amend the bill by relettering or renumbering any nonconsecutive Part letter or section number to read consecutively.

SUMMARY

This amendment, which is the majority report of the committee, replaces the bill with a resolve. The amendment directs the Commissioner of Health and Human Services to convene a working group to study assaults on health care workers in health care facilities. The commissioner is required to submit a report by January 1, 2026 to the Joint Standing Committee on Criminal Justice and Public Safety and the Joint Standing Committee on Health and Human Services. The Joint Standing Committee on Criminal Justice and Public Safety may report out legislation based on the report to the Second Regular Session of the 132nd Legislature.

FISCAL NOTE REQUIRED

(See attached)