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**JUDICIARY**

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

COMMITTEE AMENDMENT “ ” to H.P. 841, L.D. 1266, “Resolve, Directing the Attorney General to Convene a Working Group to Propose a Plan for Expanding the Reach of Treatment Courts”

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

**'Resolve, Directing the Department of Health and Human Services, Office of Behavioral Health to Convene a Working Group to Propose a Plan for Expanding the Reach of Treatment Courts'**

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

**'Sec. 1. Adult treatment courts. Resolved:** That the Department of Health and Human Services, Office of Behavioral Health shall establish a working group to develop a plan for expanding the availability of adult drug treatment courts, family treatment courts and veterans treatment courts across the State by ensuring that defendants in each prosecutorial district and county have access to these specialty court dockets. As used in this resolve, "adult drug treatment courts" and "family treatment courts" mean specialty court dockets that serve adult criminal defendants whose involvement with the criminal justice system has been caused, at least in part, by a serious substance use disorder and that allow those defendants, upon successful completion of a program involving multidisciplinary supports, services and requirements, to have all or most of their pending criminal charges dismissed. The Office of Behavioral Health shall invite a multidisciplinary group of stakeholders to participate in the working group, including probation and parole officers from the Department of Corrections, as well as representatives from the Judicial Department; the Department of Defense, Veterans and Emergency Management; the Department of Health and Human Services, Office of Child and Family Services; the Maine Commission on Public Defense Services; a statewide association of prosecutors; a statewide association of criminal defense attorneys; local law enforcement agencies; organizations that provide pretrial supervision to defendants under pretrial release pursuant to the Maine Revised Statutes, Title 15, section 1026; and a statewide organization that advocates for reentry services for current and formerly incarcerated individuals in the State. The Department of Health and Human Services,

1 Office of Behavioral Health shall submit a report of the working group's activities,  
2 including any recommendations for expanding the scope and geographic location of  
3 treatment courts and suggested legislation developed by the working group, to the Joint  
4 Standing Committee on Judiciary no later than January 1, 2026. The joint standing  
5 committee may report out legislation related to the report to the Second Regular Session of  
6 the 132nd Legislature.'

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

9 **SUMMARY**

10 This amendment changes the title of the resolve and directs the Department of Health  
11 and Human Services, Office of Behavioral Health, instead of the Attorney General as in  
12 the resolve, to convene the working group to propose a plan for expanding the reach of  
13 treatment courts. The amendment also directs the office to submit a report of the working  
14 group's activities to the Joint Standing Committee on Judiciary, including  
15 recommendations for expanding the scope and geographic location of treatment courts.

16 **FISCAL NOTE REQUIRED**

17 **(See attached)**