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In Senate, February 26, 2015

Resolve, To Direct the Department of Health and Human Services To Report on Efforts To Reach in Rural Areas Persons Who Are Elderly, Disabled or Mentally Ill

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

HEATHER J.R. PRIEST Secretary of the Senate

Presented by Senator DAVIS of Piscataquis.

Cosponsored by Representative HIGGINS of Dover-Foxcroft and

Senators: BURNS of Washington, SAVIELLO of Franklin, Representative: STEARNS of Guilford.

Sec. 1. Department of Health and Human Services to report on efforts to reach in rural areas persons who are elderly, disabled or mentally ill. Resolved: That the Department of Health and Human Services shall report on its efforts to reach in rural areas persons who are elderly, disabled or mentally ill. The department shall particularly focus on elderly, disabled and mentally ill persons who are not able to use or who have no access to the Internet or other electronic forms of communication technology or who have limited contact with the department. In developing this report, the department shall hold at least one public meeting in Piscataquis County to which persons, parties and organizations interested in the health and well-being of persons who are elderly, disabled or mentally ill may attend to inform the department of the effectiveness of department efforts and any shortcomings in efforts to reach in rural areas persons who are elderly, disabled or mentally ill and the ability of those populations to access department services and personnel. The department shall submit its report to the Joint Standing Committee on Health and Human Services by January 1, 2016.

15 SUMMARY

This resolve requires the Department of Health and Human Services to report on department efforts to reach in rural areas persons who are elderly, disabled or mentally ill. This resolve requires the department, in developing its report, to have at least one public meeting in Piscataquis County and to particularly focus on elderly, disabled and mentally ill persons who are not able to use or who have no access to the Internet and other electronic forms of communication technology or who have limited contact with the department.