



127th MAINE LEGISLATURE

FIRST REGULAR SESSION-2015

Legislative Document

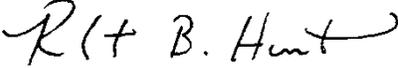
No. 714

H.P. 490

House of Representatives, March 5, 2015

**Resolve, Directing the Department of Health and Human Services
To Study Providing Medical Assistance to Maine's Inhabited Islands**

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


ROBERT B. HUNT
Clerk

Presented by Representative COOPER of Yarmouth.
Cosponsored by Senator LANGLEY of Hancock and
Representatives: DEVIN of Newcastle, KRUGER of Thomaston, KUMIEGA of Deer Isle,
Senators: GRATWICK of Penobscot, MIRAMANT of Knox.

1 **Sec. 1. Medical assistance for island residents study. Resolved:** That the
2 Department of Health and Human Services shall study the feasibility of, need for and cost
3 of providing nonemergency medical care for residents and visitors on all the year-round
4 inhabited islands in the State via telemedicine as defined in the Maine Revised Statutes,
5 Title 24-A, section 4316, subsection 1. The study must consider a program that uses a
6 means of telemedicine transmission that ensures the confidentiality of patients' medical
7 information as required by state and federal laws and the training of at least one person on
8 each island in the use of telemedicine tools. The study must also consider the cost to the
9 State if telemedicine services to island resident MaineCare patients are reimbursed by the
10 MaineCare program; and be it further

11 **Sec. 2. Report. Resolved:** That the Department of Health and Human Services
12 shall report its findings under section 1, along with any suggested legislation, to the Joint
13 Standing Committee on Health and Human Services no later than January 15, 2016. The
14 joint standing committee may report out a bill to the Second Regular Session of the 127th
15 Legislature related to the report.

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SUMMARY

17 This resolve requires the Department of Health and Human Services to study the
18 feasibility of, need for and cost of providing telemedicine medical assistance for residents
19 and visitors on all the year-round inhabited islands in the State and to report to the Joint
20 Standing Committee on Health and Human Services no later than January 15, 2016.