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Resolve, To Adopt Respectful Language in Programs Affecting Developmental Services

Sec. 1 Resolved: That the Department of Health and Human Services shall change the name of its programs serving people with mental retardation or autism to refer to developmental services programs. The department shall take steps to amend its rules, policies, guidelines, publications and forms to reflect this more respectful language as soon as practicable; and be it further

Sec. 2 Resolved: That, in implementing the name changes required in section 1, the department shall consult with and be guided by the report and recommendations of the working group convened by the Maine Developmental Disabilities Council in accordance with Resolve 2007, chapter 62; and be it further

Sec. 3 Resolved: That, in order to further implement the adoption of respectful language described in section 1 in state law affecting developmental services, the department may submit legislation for introduction to the First Regular Session of the 124th Legislature.

SUMMARY

This resolve directs the Department of Health and Human Services to change the name of its programs for persons with mental retardation or autism to developmental services programs and to be guided by the working group convened by the Maine Developmental Disabilities Council pursuant to Resolve 2007, chapter 62 in making any changes to rules and other publications to reflect the change in terminology.