



125th MAINE LEGISLATURE

FIRST REGULAR SESSION-2011

Legislative Document

No. 531

H.P. 414

House of Representatives, February 15, 2011

**An Act To Specify Qualifications for the Director of the Office of
Adult Mental Health Services within the Department of Health and
Human Services**

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

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Heather J.R. Priest".

HEATHER J.R. PRIEST
Clerk

Presented by Representative SANBORN of Gorham.
Cosponsored by Senator CRAVEN of Androscoggin and
Representatives: BRYANT of Windham, GOODE of Bangor, HOGAN of Old Orchard Beach,
NELSON of Falmouth.

1 **Be it enacted by the People of the State of Maine as follows:**

2 **Sec. 1. 22-A MRSA §205, sub-§4**, as amended by PL 2007, c. 539, Pt. N, §44, is
3 further amended to read:

4 **4. Appointments.** All deputy commissioners, all office directors, the regional
5 systems integration directors and the superintendents of any state institutions are
6 appointed by the commissioner and serve at the pleasure of the commissioner.

7 Deputy commissioners and office directors appointed pursuant to this subsection must
8 have educational qualifications and professional experience directly related to the
9 functions of and services provided by the relevant unit or office. Whenever the director
10 of the Office of Adult Mental Health Services within the department is not a psychiatrist
11 licensed pursuant to Title 32, chapter 56, subchapter 2, the commissioner shall appoint a
12 chief for clinical services, who must be a psychiatrist licensed pursuant to Title 32,
13 chapter 56, subchapter 2, with both clinical and administrative experience. The chief for
14 clinical services is responsible for all clinical and medical decisions for adult mental
15 health services.

16 **SUMMARY**

17 This bill specifies that when the director of the Office of Adult Mental Health
18 Services within the Department of Health and Human Services is not a psychiatrist
19 licensed pursuant to the Maine Revised Statutes, Title 32, chapter 56, subchapter 2, the
20 Commissioner of Health and Human Services shall appoint a psychiatrist licensed
21 pursuant to Title 32, chapter 56, subchapter 2 as a chief for clinical services.