

Public Law 2011, Chapter 380, PART NN

Sec. NN-1. Dorothea Dix Psychiatric Center working group established.

1. Working group established; goals. Notwithstanding Joint Rule 353, the Commissioner of Health and Human Services shall convene a working group, referred to in this section as "the working group," to develop a plan and suggest implementing legislation regarding the future role and structure of the Dorothea Dix Psychiatric Center to be effective June 30, 2012, including the transfer of personnel, position counts and other responsibilities, if applicable, to other programs within the Department of Health and Human Services. The working group shall develop a comprehensive plan that is focused on the attainment of recovery milestones, such as improved health status, increased independence, improved life satisfaction and integration into the full community, for persons with serious and persistent mental health conditions through the delivery of high-quality, efficient services.

2. Working group membership. The members of the working group are:

A. One member of the Senate, appointed by the President of the Senate. When making the appointment, the President of the Senate shall give preference to members from the area served by the Dorothea Dix Psychiatric Center and members of the party having the largest number of members in the Senate;

B. One member of the House of Representatives, appointed by the Speaker of the House. When making the appointment, the Speaker of the House shall give preference to members from the area served by the Dorothea Dix Psychiatric Center and members of the party having the 2nd largest number of members in the House;

C. The Commissioner of Health and Human Services or the commissioner's designee;

D. The Superintendent of the Dorothea Dix Psychiatric Center or the superintendent's designee;

E. The Superintendent of the Riverview Psychiatric Center or the superintendent's designee;

F. The Commissioner of Administrative and Financial Services or the commissioner's designee;

G. One member of the staff of the Dorothea Dix Psychiatric Center selected by the Commissioner of Health and Human Services from among candidates provided by the President of the Maine State Employees Association;

H. One member of the staff of the Dorothea Dix Psychiatric Center selected by the Commissioner of Health and Human Services from among candidates provided by the President of the American Federation of State, County and Municipal Employees, Maine branch; and

I. The following, invited by the Commissioner of Health and Human Services to participate in the working group:

(1) The Chief Executive Officer of Spring Harbor Hospital or the chief executive officer's designee;

(2) The Chief Executive Officer of Acadia Hospital or the chief executive officer's designee;

(3) Two members of the Consumer Council System of Maine, including the Executive Director of the Consumer Council System of Maine or the executive director's designee;

(4) The Executive Director of the Disability Rights Center or the executive director's designee;

- (5) The Executive Director of the National Alliance on Mental Illness Maine or the executive director's designee;
- (6) The Chief Executive Officer of Aroostook Mental Health Services, Inc. or the chief executive officer's designee;
- (7) The Executive Director of Community Health and Counseling Services, Inc. or the executive director's designee;
- (8) The Chief Executive Officer of the Charlotte White Center or the chief executive officer's designee; and
- (9) The President of the Eastern Maine Development Corporation or the president's designee.

3. Working group chair. The Commissioner of Health and Human Services shall serve as the chair of the working group.

4. Staff assistance. The Department of Health and Human Services shall provide staff assistance to the working group.

5. Report. In developing recommendations and suggested implementing legislation, the working group shall develop a plan that:

- A. Establishes recovery outcomes to be tracked;
- B. Ensures that the transitional needs of patients are effectively met;
- C. Includes provision of essential community living supports for housing, vocational and nonvocational involvements and health care;
- D. Includes support for other critical community-based resources and treatment services;
- E. Focuses on integrating all health care;
- F. Ensures that adequate capacity exists locally for inpatient hospitalizations;
- G. Ensures that adequate essential community care services to support outcomes are available;
- H. Ensures that community and family education is optimized to support integration; and
- I. Ensures that the delivery of high-quality, efficient service is achieved.

The working group shall submit its plan and proposed legislation to the Commissioner of Health and Human Services, who shall report to the Joint Standing Committee on Appropriations and Financial Affairs and the Joint Standing Committee on Health and Human Services no later than December 1, 2011. After receipt and review of the plan, the committees may submit legislation to the Second Regular Session of the 125th Legislature to implement the recommendations regarding the Dorothea Dix Psychiatric Center.