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MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE
GOVERNMENT OVERSIGHT COMMITTEE

HEALTH CARE SERVICES IN STATE CORRECTIONAL FACILITIES

This topic was first brought to the Government Oversight Committee (GOC) at its March 27, 2009 meeting as a result of two different requests for OPEGA reviews: one from a citizen, and one from a legislator. The GOC considered these requests, in addition to information from prior OPEGA reviews and the fact that the 2010-2011 budget included \$16.5 million in General Fund each year for the Correctional Medical Services Fund (0286). On December 14, 2009 the GOC considered OPEGA's Recommendation for Project Direction on a review of Medical Services in State Correctional Facilities and voted unanimously to have OPEGA focus on the following question:

- How well does the Department of Corrections manage its contracts for medical, dental, pharmaceutical, and adult mental health services to ensure compliance with contract terms, conditions and expectations with regard to performance, quality and cost?

On August 19, 2010, the Committee voted unanimously to expand the scope of the review to include the following additional questions:

- How well are the selected contractors complying with the contract terms and provisions that are most critical to assuring inmates receive necessary and appropriate health care services in a timely manner?
- Are the selected contractors complying with relevant regulations, and adhering to appropriate and accepted procedures and practices, in delivering health care services to inmates?

The title of the review was changed to Health Care Services in State Correctional Facilities to more appropriately reflect the scope of this review.

To date a timeframe for completion of this project has not been set.