

# MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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# 127th MAINE LEGISLATURE

## FIRST REGULAR SESSION-2015

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Legislative Document

No. 474

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H.P. 313

House of Representatives, February 24, 2015

### **An Act To Improve Access to Dental Care in Maine**

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

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "R B. Hunt".

ROBERT B. HUNT  
Clerk

Presented by Representative GATTINE of Westbrook.  
Cosponsored by Senator BURNS of Washington and  
Representatives: CHIPMAN of Portland, FARNSWORTH of Portland, HEAD of Bethel,  
SANBORN of Gorham, STUCKEY of Portland, WALLACE of Dexter, Senators:  
GRATWICK of Penobscot, WHITTEMORE of Somerset.

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

2 **Sec. 1. 22 MRSA §3174-F, sub-§1, ¶D**, as amended by PL 1997, c. 159, §1, is  
3 further amended to read:

4 D. ~~Treatment~~ Diagnostic services and related treatment necessary to relieve pain,  
5 eliminate infection or prevent imminent tooth loss; ~~and~~

6 **Sec. 2. 22 MRSA §3174-F, sub-§1, ¶F**, as enacted by PL 1997, c. 159, §2, is  
7 amended to read:

8 F. ~~Other dental~~ Dental services, including full and partial dentures, medically  
9 necessary to correct or ameliorate an underlying medical condition, if the department  
10 determines that provision of those services will be cost-effective in comparison to the  
11 provision of other covered medical services for the treatment of that condition;

12 **Sec. 3. 22 MRSA §3174-F, sub-§1, ¶¶G and H** are enacted to read:

13 G. Dental services including diagnostic and preventive services to pregnant women  
14 and postpartum women for one year after delivery to ameliorate conditions or reduce  
15 complications that exist because of or are exacerbated by the pregnancy or that, if left  
16 untreated, could adversely affect fetal or child development; and

17 H. Dental services necessary to avoid more costly medical or dental care when  
18 authorized by the department in accordance with rules adopted by the department.

19 **Sec. 4. 22 MRSA §3174-F, sub-§§3 and 4** are enacted to read:

20 **3. Notice to MaineCare members.** The department shall provide notice of dental  
21 benefits available under this section to an individual when the individual enrolls as an  
22 adult member of MaineCare.

23 **4. Notice to providers.** Annually, the department shall provide to providers of  
24 services under this section educational opportunities relating to the scope of benefits  
25 covered and administrative requirements. Such educational opportunities may be  
26 delivered by electronic newsletters, educational training meetings, policy briefings and  
27 fact sheets.

28 **Sec. 5. Notice to MaineCare members.** By November 1, 2015, the Department  
29 of Health and Human Services shall provide to MaineCare members notice of adult  
30 dental benefits available under the Maine Revised Statutes, Title 22, section 3174-F,  
31 subsection 1.

32 **Sec. 6. Written notice to providers.** By November 1, 2015, the Department of  
33 Health and Human Services shall provide to providers of dental care enrolled as  
34 MaineCare providers written notice of adult dental benefits available under the Maine  
35 Revised Statutes, Title 22, section 3174-F, subsection 1.

36 **Sec. 7. Rulemaking; stakeholder group.**

