

MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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127th MAINE LEGISLATURE

FIRST REGULAR SESSION-2015

Legislative Document

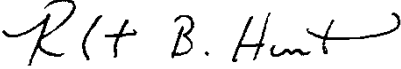
No. 841

H.P. 575

House of Representatives, March 10, 2015

**Resolve, Directing the Department of Health and Human Services
To Develop a Bus Pass Program**

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


ROBERT B. HUNT
Clerk

Presented by Representative STUCKEY of Portland.
Cosponsored by Senator HASKELL of Cumberland and
Representatives: BATES of Westbrook, GOODE of Bangor, SANBORN of Gorham.

1 **Sec. 1. Department of Health and Human Services to develop a bus pass**
2 **program. Resolved:** That, by January 1, 2016, the Department of Health and Human
3 Services shall develop and implement a bus pass program to provide monthly bus passes
4 to individuals who live in geographical areas of the State served by transit systems that
5 offer monthly bus passes and who use those transit systems to attend medical
6 appointments reimbursed by MaineCare under the nonemergency transportation program
7 within the MaineCare program and participate in state or municipal programs that aim to
8 foster independence and economic security such as the Additional Support for People in
9 Retraining and Employment - Temporary Assistance for Needy Families program as
10 established in the Maine Revised Statutes, Title 22, chapter 1054-A, work programs
11 within other public assistance programs and other educational programs. The Department
12 of Health and Human Services shall leverage federal and state funds, including any
13 funding from the nonemergency transportation program within the MaineCare program
14 and possible resources from the Department of Labor and the Department of Education
15 that are targeted to employment that could be used as part of the bus pass program. The
16 Department of Health and Human Services shall report to the Joint Standing Committee
17 on Health and Human Services by March 1, 2016 on the bus pass program including the
18 number of bus passes issued, the number of individuals being served and the sources of
19 the funding.

20

SUMMARY

21 This resolve requires the Department of Health and Human Services to develop and
22 implement a bus pass program by January 1, 2016 to serve individuals who live in areas
23 served by public bus systems and who use those transport systems to attend medical
24 appointments reimbursed by MaineCare under the nonemergency transportation program
25 within the MaineCare program and participate in other programs that are aimed at
26 fostering independence and economic security such as the ASPIRE-TANF program. The
27 department must identify funding sources that could be leveraged, including funding
28 currently used for the nonemergency transportation program within the MaineCare
29 program and possible Department of Labor and Department of Education resources
30 targeted toward employment. The department must report to the Joint Standing
31 Committee on Health and Human Services by March 1, 2016 on the status of the bus pass
32 program including the number of passes issued and individuals being served and sources
33 of funding.