

# MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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Date: 5/30/19

L.D. 692  
(Filing No. H-487)

**HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES**

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**STATE OF MAINE  
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES  
129TH LEGISLATURE  
FIRST REGULAR SESSION**

COMMITTEE AMENDMENT "A" to H.P. 512, L.D. 692, "Resolve, To Address Reimbursement Rates for Licensed Clinical Social Workers under MaineCare"

Amend the resolve by striking out everything after the title and inserting the following:

**Sec. 1. Department of Health and Human Services to increase MaineCare rates. Resolved:** That, no later than January 1, 2020, the Department of Health and Human Services shall amend its rule Chapter 101: MaineCare Benefits Manual, Chapter III, Section 65 to increase reimbursement rates for counseling services provided by independent licensed clinical social workers as defined in the Maine Revised Statutes, Title 32, section 7001-A to no less than 70% of the Medicare rate for the closest equivalent service as long as the rate is no lower than the rate that exists on May 1, 2019. Rules adopted pursuant to this section are routine technical rules pursuant to Title 5, chapter 375, subchapter 2-A.

**Sec. 2. Appropriations and allocations. Resolved:** That the following appropriations and allocations are made.

**HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES, DEPARTMENT OF  
Medical Care - Payments to Providers 0147**

Initiative: Provides appropriations for an increase to rates in rule Chapter 101: MaineCare Benefits Manual, Chapter III, Section 65, Behavioral Health Services to increase reimbursement rates for counseling services provided by independent licensed clinical social workers.

<b>GENERAL FUND</b>	<b>2019-20</b>	<b>2020-21</b>
All Other	\$284,870	\$569,740
<b>GENERAL FUND TOTAL</b>	<u>\$284,870</u>	<u>\$569,740</u>

**COMMITTEE AMENDMENT**

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**SUMMARY**

This amendment specifies that the services provided by independent licensed clinical social workers are provided under Section 65 of rule Chapter 101: MaineCare Benefits Manual, Chapter III. Rather than increasing rates to the lowest reimbursement rate for the same service paid by an insurance carrier licensed in Maine, the amendment increases rates to 70% of the Medicare rate for the closest equivalent service, since there is no exact equivalent rate under Medicare. The amendment also adds an appropriations and allocations section.

**FISCAL NOTE REQUIRED**

**(See attached)**



# 129th MAINE LEGISLATURE

LD 692

LR 999(02)

Resolve, To Address Reimbursement Rates for Licensed Clinical Social Workers under MaineCare

Fiscal Note for Bill as Amended by Committee Amendment "A" (H-487)  
 Committee: Health and Human Services  
 Fiscal Note Required: Yes

## Fiscal Note

	FY 2019-20	FY 2020-21	Projections FY 2021-22	Projections FY 2022-23
<b>Net Cost (Savings)</b>				
General Fund	\$284,870	\$569,740	\$569,740	\$569,740
<b>Appropriations/Allocations</b>				
General Fund	\$284,870	\$569,740	\$569,740	\$569,740

### Fiscal Detail and Notes

The bill includes General Fund appropriations to the Department of Health and Human Services of \$284,870 in fiscal year 2019-20 and \$569,740 in fiscal year 2020-21 for an increase to rates in rule Chapter 101: MaineCare Benefits Manual, Section 65 Behavioral Health Services, Chapter III to increase reimbursement rates for counseling services provided by independent licensed clinical social workers.

PL 2017 c. 460 increased rates for services in Sections 17, 23 and 65 which are included in the Clinic Upper Payment Limit calculations. The impact of those increases put the department at or slightly above the amount allowed to be paid by the Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services. As a result, the rate increase in this bill would have to be paid with state general fund money only.