

# MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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# 132nd MAINE LEGISLATURE

## FIRST SPECIAL SESSION-2025

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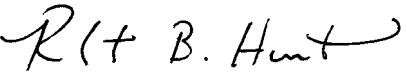
H.P. 938

House of Representatives, April 3, 2025

### **An Act to Provide Full Reimbursement for Emergency Ambulance Services Provided to MaineCare Members**

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

  
ROBERT B. HUNT  
Clerk

Presented by Representative FREDETTE of Newport.

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

2           **Sec. 1. 22 MRSA §3174-JJ**, as amended by PL 2019, c. 530, Pt. B, §1, is further  
3 amended to read:

4       **§3174-JJ. MaineCare reimbursement for ambulance services**

5           The Except as provided in section 3174-PPP, the department shall reimburse for  
6 ambulance services under MaineCare at a level that is not less than the average allowable  
7 reimbursement rate under Medicare for such services or at the highest percent of that level  
8 that is possible within resources appropriated for those purposes. Beginning March 1,  
9 2015, the department shall reimburse for ambulance services under MaineCare at a level  
10 that is not less than 65% of the average allowable reimbursement rate under Medicare for  
11 such services. Beginning January 1, 2020, the department shall reimburse for ambulance  
12 services under MaineCare at a level that is not less than the average allowable  
13 reimbursement rate under Medicare for such services and shall reimburse for neonatal  
14 transport services under MaineCare at the average rate for critical care transport services  
15 under Medicare.

16           **Sec. 2. 22 MRSA §3174-PPP** is enacted to read:

17       **§3174-PPP. Full reimbursement for emergency ambulance services**

18           **1. Definitions.** As used in this section, unless the context otherwise indicates, the  
19 following terms have the following meanings.

20           A. "Emergency ambulance services" means services provided, in response to an  
21 emergency call for assistance, by:

22                   (1) Municipal and quasi-municipal ambulance services;

23                   (2) Fire department emergency medical services; and

24                   (3) Private ambulance services, as applicable under MaineCare guidelines.

25           B. "Full rate" means the reimbursement rate determined to be usual, customary and  
26 reasonable by the department and consistent with federal guidelines and applicable  
27 state law.

28           **2. Reimbursement requirements.** The department shall reimburse providers of  
29 emergency ambulance services for MaineCare members at the full rate for services eligible  
30 under the MaineCare program.

31           **3. Funding.** The department shall identify and allocate sufficient funding from state  
32 and federal sources to meet the reimbursement requirements under subsection 2. The  
33 department shall prioritize the use of available federal matching funds to minimize the  
34 effect on state resources.

35           **4. Report.** Beginning December 1, 2025, and annually thereafter, the department shall  
36 submit a report to the joint standing committee of the Legislature having jurisdiction over  
37 health and human services matters relating to reimbursement under this section. The report  
38 must include, but is not limited to:

39                   A. Data on the number of reimbursed emergency ambulance services;

40                   B. The total amount of funds disbursed for reimbursed emergency ambulance services;  
41 and

C. Recommendations for improving reimbursement policies and ensuring the sustainability of emergency ambulance services statewide.

**5. Rulemaking.** The department shall adopt rules to implement this section. Rules adopted pursuant to this subsection are routine technical rules as defined in Title 5, chapter 375, subchapter 2-A.

## SUMMARY

This bill requires the Department of Health and Human Services to reimburse providers of emergency ambulance services at the full rate for services provided to MaineCare members. It applies to municipal, quasi-municipal and private ambulance services and fire department emergency medical services. The bill also requires the department to adopt rules to implement the reimbursement requirement and to submit an annual report to the Legislature.