

# MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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7/14/25  
ROS

L.D. 1859

Date: 6/14/25

(Filing No. S-265)

MAJORITY  
HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES

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STATE OF MAINE  
SENATE  
132ND LEGISLATURE  
FIRST SPECIAL SESSION

COMMITTEE AMENDMENT "A" to S.P. 729, L.D. 1859, "An Act to Improve Access to Child Care and Early Childhood Education by Establishing Regional Resource Hubs"

Amend the bill in section 1 in c. 1083 in §4100-D in subsection 3 in the first line (page 1, line 19 in L.D.) by striking out the following: "November 1, 2025" and inserting the following: 'July 1, 2026'

Amend the bill in section 1 in c. 1083 in §4100-D in subsection 3 in the first line (page 1, line 19 in L.D.) by striking out the following: "4" and inserting the following: '2'

Amend the bill in section 1 in c. 1083 in §4100-D in subsection 3 in paragraph B in the first line (page 1, line 24 in L.D.) by inserting after the following: "the" the following: 'Maine'

Amend the bill in section 1 in c. 1083 in §4100-D in subsection 3 in paragraph B in the first line (page 1, line 24 in L.D.) by inserting after the following: "Cabinet" the following: 'Early Childhood Advisory Council'

Amend the bill in section 1 in c. 1083 in §4100-D in subsection 3 in paragraph B in the first line (page 1, line 24 in L.D.) by striking out the following: "19131" and inserting the following: '24051'

Amend the bill in section 1 in c. 1083 in §4100-D in subsection 7 in the first line (page 3, line 38 in L.D.) by striking out the following: "2027" and inserting the following: '2028'

Amend the bill in section 2 in the first line (page 4, line 6 in L.D.) by striking out the following: "December 15, 2025" and inserting the following: 'March 15, 2026'

Amend the bill in section 2 in the 3rd line (page 4, line 8 in L.D.) by inserting after the following: "department's" the following: 'written'

Amend the bill in section 2 in the 4th line (page 4, line 9 in L.D.) by striking out the following: "4" and inserting the following: '2'

Amend the bill by striking out all of section 3 and inserting the following:

**COMMITTEE AMENDMENT**

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**Sec. 3. Appropriations and allocations.** The following appropriations and allocations are made.

**HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES, DEPARTMENT OF**

**Early Childhood Learning and Development Resource Hub Fund N552**

Initiative: Provides funding to establish one Social Services Program Manager position and one Social Services Program Specialist II position to establish and administer early childhood learning and development resource hubs effective January 1, 2026 and provides funding for related All Other costs.

<b>GENERAL FUND</b>	<b>2025-26</b>	<b>2026-27</b>
POSITIONS - LEGISLATIVE COUNT	2,000	2,000
Personal Services	\$117,785	\$247,036
All Other	\$7,256	\$7,256
<b>GENERAL FUND TOTAL</b>	<b>\$125,041</b>	<b>\$254,292</b>

**Early Childhood Learning and Development Resource Hub Fund N552**

Initiative: Provides ongoing funding for contracts to operate 2 regional early childhood learning and development resource hubs beginning July 1, 2026.

<b>GENERAL FUND</b>	<b>2025-26</b>	<b>2026-27</b>
All Other	\$0	\$750,000
<b>GENERAL FUND TOTAL</b>	<b>\$0</b>	<b>\$750,000</b>

**HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES,  
DEPARTMENT OF  
DEPARTMENT TOTALS**

	<b>2025-26</b>	<b>2026-27</b>
<b>GENERAL FUND</b>	<b>\$125,041</b>	<b>\$1,004,292</b>
<b>DEPARTMENT TOTAL - ALL FUNDS</b>	<b>\$125,041</b>	<b>\$1,004,292</b>

Amend the bill by relettering or renumbering any nonconsecutive Part letter or section number to read consecutively.

**SUMMARY**

This amendment, which is the majority report of the committee, changes the number of early childhood learning and development resource hubs to be established from 4 to 2, delays the date of establishment from November 1, 2025 to July 1, 2026 and changes the starting date of the Department of Health and Human Services' annual report to the Legislature to January 1, 2028. It clarifies that the department must seek input from the Maine Children's Cabinet Early Childhood Advisory Council rather than the Children's Cabinet in establishing the resource hubs. It changes the date that the department reports its plans for establishing the resource hubs to the Joint Standing Committee on Health and

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COMMITTEE AMENDMENT "A" to S.P. 729, L.D. 1859 (S. 265)

1 Human Services from December 2025 to March 2026. It updates the appropriations and  
2 allocations section.

3 **FISCAL NOTE REQUIRED**  
4 (See attached)

**132nd MAINE LEGISLATURE****LD 1859****LR 2207(02)****An Act to Improve Access to Child Care and Early Childhood Education by Establishing Regional Resource Hubs**

**Fiscal Note for Bill as Amended by Committee Amendment "A" (S. 265)**  
**Committee: Health and Human Services**  
**Fiscal Note Required: Yes**

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**Fiscal Note**

	<b>FY 2025-26</b>	<b>FY 2026-27</b>	<b>Projections FY 2027-28</b>	<b>Projections FY 2028-29</b>
<b>Net Cost (Savings)</b>				
General Fund	\$125,041	\$1,004,292	\$1,013,524	\$1,018,118
<b>Appropriations/Allocations</b>				
General Fund	\$125,041	\$1,004,292	\$1,013,524	\$1,018,118

**Fiscal Detail and Notes**

The bill includes ongoing annual General Fund appropriations to the Department of Health and Human Services of \$750,000 beginning in fiscal year 2026-27 for contracts to operate 2 regional early childhood learning and development and resource hubs. The bill also includes ongoing General Fund appropriations to the department of \$125,041 in fiscal year 2025-26 and \$254,292 in fiscal year 2026-27 for one Social Services Program Manager position and one Social Services Specialist II position beginning January 1, 2026 to support the development and administration of the resource hubs.

Additional costs to the Department of Education associated with collaborating with the Department of Health and Human Services to address recommendations on improving the coordination and service delivery for children in the State and their families can be absorbed within existing budgeted resources.