## MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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## STATE OF MAINE

 $132^{\text{ND}}$  Legislature First Regular and First Special Sessions



Disposition of bills and summaries of all laws enacted or finally passed

## JOINT STANDING COMMITTEE ON HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES

August 2025

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## JOINT STANDING COMMITTEE ON HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES

highest rating under the child care quality rating system under Department of Health and Human Services rules.

### LD 1523 Resolve, to Develop MaineCare Coverage for Doula Services

#### **ENACTED LAW SUMMARY**

Resolve 2025, chapter 89 requires the Department of Health and Human Services to initiate a rate determination process for developing rates for doula services under the MaineCare program. The department shall establish a doula council to provide advice on issues related to reimbursement, credentialing, recruitment, billing and outreach. The department shall submit a report, no later than February 1, 2027, to the joint standing committee of the Legislature having jurisdiction over health and human services matters that includes the department's progress on developing rates and recommendations for reimbursement of doula services under the MaineCare program. The committee is authorized to report out legislation related to the report to the 133rd Legislature in 2027.

# LD 1550 Resolve, Directing the Department of Health and Human Services to Amend Its Rules to Protect Water Quality by Reducing Nutrient Pollution from Septic Systems

#### **ENACTED LAW SUMMARY**

Resolve 2025, chapter 45 directs the Department of Health and Human Services to amend its rule governing subsurface wastewater disposal in the following ways.

- 1. It must amend the design standards for disposal fields in a manner that addresses short circuiting by reducing nutrient loading from septic tank effluent through natural processes.
- 2. It must apply the amended design standards only to soil profiles that pose a high risk of short circuiting due to the presence of sand or gravel layers in lower soil horizons or bedrock fractures.
- 3. It must provide that an area of land suitable for the installation of a disposal field may not be rendered unsuitable due to any changes in the rule amended pursuant to the resolve.

### LD 1736 An Act to Increase the Supply of Child Care Services Through the Use of Contracts

#### **ENACTED LAW SUMMARY**

Public Law 2025, chapter 323 requires the Department of Health and Human Services, Office of Child and Family Services to enter into direct contracts with providers of child care to provide child care slots for children under three years of age, children with disabilities and children in