

# MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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**STATE OF MAINE**  
132<sup>ND</sup> 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**

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## **JOINT STANDING COMMITTEE ON HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES**

underserved geographic areas. It authorizes the office to use direct contracts to provide child care slots for other categories of children based on priorities identified by the office.

### **LD 1769 An Act to Ensure Data Reporting for Temporary Nurse Agencies**

#### **ENACTED LAW SUMMARY**

Public Law 2025, chapter 346 requires the Department of Health and Human Services to provide an annual report to the joint standing committee of the Legislature having jurisdiction over health and human services matters summarizing the annual reports submitted by temporary nurse agencies. It also adds language to the definition of “temporary nurse agency” to include online platforms or marketplaces that advertise for and assist or facilitate placement of temporary nurses, certified nursing assistants or other qualified staffing in an organization within the State. It requires temporary nurse agencies to use the Department of Health and Human Services, Background Check Center for direct access workers. It provides that the department may enter into a consent agreement with an applicant or registrant to resolve any matter arising under the Maine Revised Statutes, Title 22, chapter 417, chapter 417-A or chapter 1691 or a rule adopted by the department without further proceedings.

### **LD 1866 An Act to Amend the Laws Regarding the State-designated Agency Advocating for Individuals with Serious Mental Illness**

#### **ENACTED LAW SUMMARY**

Public Law 2025, chapter 349 requires that the Department of Health and Human Services contract with an independent agency to provide advocacy services on a statewide basis to individuals with serious mental illness who are residing in those individuals’ communities or who are hospitalized. It also prohibits advocates from providing medical advice.

### **LD 1937 An Act to Require Hospitals and Hospital-affiliated Providers to Provide Financial Assistance Programs for Medical Care**

#### **ENACTED LAW SUMMARY**

Public Law 2025, chapter 488 eliminates the existing law that requires the Department of Health and Human Services to adopt guidelines governing charity care and replaces it with a more comprehensive law governing charity care and other financial assistance programs provided by hospitals to patients to cover charges for services provided by that hospital. The law does the following.

1. It requires that hospitals provide charity care or free health care services to patients who are state residents and whose family income is equal to or less than 200% of the federal poverty level.