

# MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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R. of S.

L.D. 346

(Filing No. H- 426)

STATE OF MAINE  
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES  
116TH LEGISLATURE  
FIRST REGULAR SESSION

COMMITTEE AMENDMENT "A" to H.P. 268, L.D. 346, Bill, "An Act to Enable Parents of Children with Mental Illness to Care for Their Children at Home"

Amend the bill by striking out everything after the enacting clause and before the statement of fact and inserting in its place the following:

**Sec. 1. Waiver eligibility.** By October 1, 1993, if federal approval is granted, the Department of Human Services shall amend the State Medicaid Plan to allow persons with intermittent acute psychological care needs to qualify for the waiver authorized by 42 United States Code, Section 1396a(e)(3) if they meet the other conditions of eligibility. The Department of Human Services shall consult with the Department of Mental Health and Mental Retardation in developing the rules.

FISCAL NOTE

If federal approval is granted, the Department of Human Services will incur minor additional costs in the Medicaid program. These costs can be absorbed within the department's existing budgeted resources.

The Departments of Human Services and Mental Health and Mental Retardation may also experience savings as a result of no longer supporting these treatment costs solely from General Fund appropriations if Medicaid reimbursement becomes available. The exact amounts can not be determined.

The additional costs to request federal approval and to prepare the necessary rules can be absorbed by the Departments of Human Services and Mental Health and Mental Retardation utilizing existing budgeted resources.'

**COMMITTEE AMENDMENT**

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**STATEMENT OF FACT**

This amendment replaces the original bill. The original bill required the Department of Human Services to seek federal approval to allow children with mental illness to receive home and community-based care through the Medicaid program if they were at risk of institutionalization. The amendment directs the Department of Human Services to expand the so-called Katie Beckett waiver to include children with mental illness, achieving the bill's original intent for the limited number of children who will qualify for the waiver program.

The amendment also adds a fiscal note to the bill.

Reported by the Committee on Human Resources  
Reproduced and distributed under the direction of the Clerk of the House  
5/25/93

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