

MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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DATE: 5-20-97

(Filing No. H-583)

HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES

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STATE OF MAINE
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
118TH LEGISLATURE
FIRST SPECIAL SESSION

COMMITTEE AMENDMENT "A" to H.P. 1098, L.D. 1541, "Resolve, Requiring the Department of Human Services to Enable People with Disabilities to Purchase Medicaid Health Insurance"

Amend the resolve by striking out the title and substituting the following:

'Resolve, Directing the Department of Human Services to Apply for a Waiver to Enable People with Disabilities to Purchase Medicaid Health Insurance'

Further amend the resolve by striking out all of section 1 and inserting in its place the following:

'Sec. 1. Department of Human Services to apply for a waiver. Resolved: That by January 1, 1998, the Department of Human Services shall apply to the Federal Government for a waiver to permit funding under the federal Medicaid program for benefits under this resolve. Under the waiver, the department shall permit people with disabilities who are on Medicaid who work at least 10 hours per week and whose employers do not offer health insurance coverage or whose health insurance coverage does not meet their health needs to purchase coverage under the Medicaid program. The waiver may also provide for the purchase of Medicaid coverage for children with disabilities whose parents work. The waiver must provide for a sliding scale fee based upon income and must be revenue-neutral. The waiver must provide that any savings be used to increase coverage for persons with disabilities. The department may adopt rules required to

COMMITTEE AMENDMENT

2 implement the waiver program in accordance with this resolve.
3 Rules adopted under this resolve are routine technical rules for
4 purposes of the Maine Revised Statutes, Title 5, chapter 375,
5 subchapter II-A.

6 **Sec. 2. Appropriation.** The following funds are appropriated
7 from the General Fund to carry out the purposes of this resolve.

8 1997-98

10 **HUMAN SERVICES, DEPARTMENT OF**

12 **Bureau of Medical Services**

14 All Other \$50,000

16 Provides funds to support a
18 portion of the estimated cost
19 of applying for a Medicaid
20 waiver.

22 **Sec. 3. Allocation.** The following funds are allocated from the
23 Federal Expenditure Fund to carry out the purposes of this
24 resolve.

26 1997-98

28 **HUMAN SERVICES, DEPARTMENT OF**

30 **Bureau of Medical Services**

32 All Other \$50,000

34 Provides funds to support a
35 portion of the estimated cost
36 of applying for a Medicaid
37 waiver.'

40 Further amend the resolve by inserting at the end before the
41 summary the following:

44 **FISCAL NOTE**

46 1997-98

48 **APPROPRIATIONS/ALLOCATIONS**

2	General Fund	\$50,000
	Other Funds	50,000

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REVENUES

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8	Other Funds	\$50,000
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The net General Fund impact of this resolve can not be determined and is, to a large extent, contingent upon federal approval. The Department of Human Services will experience additional costs if the required waiver is approved. The General Fund impact in any fiscal year will depend on the number of consumers who are eligible for the program and on the sliding fee schedule that is approved.

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The department will also incur additional costs to prepare the required waiver request. The actual increase in administrative costs will depend on the level of technical and actuarial assistance required. The department estimates that an additional \$100,000 will be needed. This bill provides that level of funding through a \$50,000 General Fund appropriation and a \$50,000 Federal Expenditure Fund allocation in fiscal year 1997-98.'

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SUMMARY

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This amendment directs the Department of Human Services to apply for a waiver to enable people with disabilities who are covered by the Medicaid program to purchase health care coverage under the Medicaid program. It requires that the waiver program be revenue-neutral. It also adds an appropriation and allocation section and a fiscal note to the bill.

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