

# MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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# 120th MAINE LEGISLATURE

## FIRST REGULAR SESSION-2001

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Legislative Document

No. 465

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S.P. 142

In Senate, February 1, 2001

**Resolve, to Provide Medicaid Reimbursement for Service Dogs and Companion Animals.**

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Reference to the Committee on Health and Human Services suggested and ordered printed.

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Joy J. O'Brien".

JOY J. O'BRIEN  
Secretary of the Senate

Presented by Senator DOUGLASS of Androscoggin.  
Cosponsored by Representative O'NEIL of Saco.

**Sec. 1. Medicaid rules. Resolved:** That, by January 1, 2002,  
2 the Department of Human Services shall amend its rules regarding  
reimbursement under the Medicaid program to provide for  
4 reimbursement for the purchase and maintenance of a service dog  
or companion animal by a person enrolled in the Medicaid program  
6 if the use of the dog or animal is prescribed by a physician.  
For the purposes of this section, "service dog" is defined as a  
8 dog that provides assistance with activities of daily living, and  
"companion animal" is defined as an animal that assists with  
10 rehabilitation and comfort for a person suffering from a medical  
condition. Rules adopted pursuant to this section are routine  
12 technical rules as defined by the Maine Revised Statutes, Title  
5, chapter 375, subchapter II-A.

### SUMMARY

**18** This resolve provides that by January 1, 2002, the  
Department of Human Services shall amend its rules regarding  
20 reimbursement under the Medicaid program to provide for  
reimbursement for the purchase and maintenance of a service dog  
22 or companion animal by a person enrolled in the Medicaid program  
if the use of the dog or animal is prescribed by a physician.  
24 These rules are routine technical rules as defined by the Maine  
Revised Statutes, Title 5, chapter 375, subchapter II-A.