

# MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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RM

L.D. 558

DATE: 5-8-03

(Filing No. H-293)

HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES

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STATE OF MAINE
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
121ST LEGISLATURE
FIRST REGULAR SESSION

COMMITTEE AMENDMENT "A" to H.P. 421, L.D. 558, "Resolve, To Enhance Services to Children and Families"

Amend the resolve by striking out everything after the title and before the summary and inserting in its place the following:

Emergency preamble. Whereas, Acts and resolves of the Legislature do not become effective until 90 days after adjournment unless enacted as emergencies; and

Whereas, the Department of Human Services has proposed substantial changes to the foster care system to take effect May 15, 2003, including significant reductions in the State's expenditure on foster care for children; and

Whereas, in the judgment of the Legislature, these facts create an emergency within the meaning of the Constitution of Maine and require the following legislation as immediately necessary for the preservation of the public peace, health and safety; now, therefore, be it

Sec. 1. Rulemaking. Resolved: That the Department of Human Services shall adopt rules regarding levels of foster care, including assessment of children and reimbursement rates. The Department of Human Services shall notify the Joint Standing Committee on Health and Human Services of any rule that is proposed pursuant to this resolve. Rules adopted pursuant to this resolve are routine technical rules as defined by the Maine Revised Statutes, Title 5, chapter 375, subchapter 2-A.

Emergency clause. In view of the emergency cited in the preamble, this resolve takes effect when approved.'

COMMITTEE AMENDMENT

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**SUMMARY**

This amendment replaces the resolve. The amendment retains the emergency status of the resolve. The amendment corrects the proposed implementation date for new reimbursement rates. The amendment deletes the provision requiring the Department of Human Services to retain current foster care reimbursement rates in effect until they have been reviewed and approved by the Joint Standing Committee on Health and Human Services. The amendment adds a provision requiring the department to conduct rulemaking on issues relating to levels of foster care, including assessment of children and reimbursement rates, and to notify the committee of any proposed rules. The amendment specifies that these rules are routine technical rules.

**FISCAL NOTE REQUIRED.**  
(See attached)

Approved: 04/30/03 *MAC*

**121st Maine Legislature  
Office of Fiscal and Program Review**



**LD 558**

**Resolve, To Enhance Services to Children and Families**

**LR 1327(02)**

**Fiscal Note for Bill as Amended by Committee Amendment " "**

**Committee: Health and Human Services**

**Fiscal Note Required: Yes**

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**Fiscal Note**

Minor cost increase - General Fund

**Fiscal Detail and Notes**

Any additional costs to the Department of Human Services to implement this bill can be absorbed by the Department within existing resources.