

MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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122nd MAINE LEGISLATURE

FIRST REGULAR SESSION-2005

Legislative Document

No. 1216

H.P. 834

House of Representatives, March 10, 2005

An Act To Strengthen Community Health Centers and Indian Health Centers

Reference to the Committee on Appropriations and Financial Affairs suggested and ordered printed.

Millicent M. MacFarland
MILLICENT M. MacFARLAND
Clerk

Presented by Representative CRESSEY of Cornish.
Cosponsored by Senator SNOWE-MELLO of Androscoggin and
Representatives: CAMPBELL of Newfield, CURLEY of Scarborough, JACOBSEN of
Waterboro, MARRACHÉ of Waterville, MOORE of the Passamaquoddy Tribe, MUSE of
Fryeburg, SHIELDS of Auburn, Senator: HASTINGS of Oxford.

2 **Be it enacted by the People of the State of Maine as follows:**

4 **Sec. 1. Reimbursement; community and Indian health center costs.**

6 The Department of Health and Human Services shall reimburse 28
8 community and Indian health centers for uncollectible,
10 outstanding patient accounts receivable. Each health center must
document the uncollectible debt prior to reimbursement. The
department shall adopt routine technical rules as defined in the
Maine Revised Statutes, Title 5, chapter 375, subchapter 2-A to
implement this Act.

12 **Sec. 2. Dirigo Health Fund.** On July 1st each year, the State

14 Controller shall credit to the purchased social services account
16 of the Department of Health and Human Services 10% of the account
18 balance in the Dirigo Health Fund, established under the Maine
20 Revised Statutes, Title 24-A, section 6915, on June 30th, the
22 last day of the preceding state fiscal year. The full amount
transferred under this section must be used by the department for
grants to the 28 community and Indian health centers under
section 1 to support their work, except that a health center may
not receive a grant under this provision for more than 10% of its
operating expenditures.

24 **Sec. 3. Appropriations and allocations.** The following

26 appropriations and allocations are made.

28 **HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES, DEPARTMENT OF**

30 **Bureau of Medical Services**

32 Initiative: Provides funds to reimburse 28 community and Indian
34 health centers for uncollectible, outstanding patient accounts
receivable.

GENERAL FUND	2005-06	2006-07
All Other	\$2,800,000	\$0
GENERAL FUND TOTAL	<u>\$2,800,000</u>	<u>\$0</u>

40 **SUMMARY**

42 This bill provides funding to reimburse 28 community and
44 Indian health centers for uncollectible, outstanding patient
accounts receivable. It provides for grants to those centers
46 totaling up to 10% of the balance remaining in the account of the
Dirigo Health Fund on June 30th of each year.