

MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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123rd MAINE LEGISLATURE

FIRST REGULAR SESSION-2007

Legislative Document

No. 723

H.P. 544

House of Representatives, February 13, 2007

An Act To Integrate Chronic Disease Prevention and Care into the MaineCare Program

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

Millicent M. MacFarland
MILLICENT M. MacFARLAND
Clerk

Presented by Representative PERRY of Calais.
Cosponsored by Senator BRANNIGAN of Cumberland and
Representatives: GROSE of Woolwich, MILLER of Somerville, PENDLETON of
Scarborough, PINGREE of North Haven, TREAT of Farmingdale.

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

2 **Sec. 1. 2 MRSA §103, sub-§5** is enacted to read:

3 **5. Blueprint for health.** Beginning with the first plan adopted after January 1, 2008,
4 the plan must incorporate and be consistent with the blueprint for health developed and
5 implemented by the Commissioner of Health and Human Services under Title 22, chapter
6 401-A.

7 **Sec. 2. 22 MRSA c. 401-A** is enacted to read:

8 **CHAPTER 401-A**

9 **BLUEPRINT FOR HEALTH**

10 **§1725. Definitions**

11 As used in this chapter, unless the context otherwise indicates, the following terms
12 have the following meanings.

13 **1. Blueprint for health.** “Blueprint for health” means the State’s plan for chronic
14 care infrastructure, prevention of chronic conditions and chronic care management,
15 including, but not limited to, an integrated approach to patient self-management,
16 community development, health care system and professional practice and information
17 technology initiatives.

18 **2. Chronic care.** “Chronic care” means health services provided by a health care
19 practitioner for a clinical chronic condition that is expected to last a year or more and that
20 requires ongoing clinical management to restore the person to the highest level of
21 functioning and to minimize the negative effects of and to prevent complications related
22 to the chronic condition.

23 **3. Chronic care information system.** “Chronic care information system” means an
24 information technology initiative developed under the blueprint for health. The chronic
25 care information system must include information on all reported cases of a particular
26 disease or condition in a defined population of persons.

27 **4. Chronic condition.** “Chronic condition” means a medical condition that is
28 persistent or recurring over an extended period of time.

29 **5. Chronic condition prevention and chronic care management.** “Chronic
30 condition prevention and chronic care management” means a system of coordinated
31 health care assessment, prevention measures, interventions and communications for
32 persons with chronic conditions. “Chronic condition prevention and chronic care
33 management” includes, but is not limited to, significant patient self-care efforts, systemic
34 supports for the physician-patient relationship and a plan of care emphasizing prevention
35 of complications using evidence-based practice guidelines, patient empowerment

1 strategies and evaluation of patient and economic outcomes on an ongoing basis with the
2 goal of improving overall health.

3 **6. Health care facility.** “Health care facility” has the same meaning as in Title 22,
4 section 1711-C, subsection 1, paragraph D.

5 **7. Health care practitioner.** “Health care practitioner” has the same meaning as in
6 Title 22, section 1711-C, subsection 1, paragraph F.

7 **8. Health carrier.** “Health carrier” has the same meaning as “carrier” in Title 24-A,
8 section 4301-A, subsection 3.

9 **9. MaineCare.** “MaineCare” means the program for health coverage for children
10 and adults operated by the department under section 3174-G.

11 **10. State health plan.** “State health plan” means the plan adopted by the Governor
12 pursuant to Title 2, section 101, subsection 1, paragraph A and described in Title 2,
13 section 103.

14 **§1726. Blueprint for health**

15 By January 1, 2008, the commissioner shall develop and implement the blueprint for
16 health to address chronic condition prevention and chronic care management. The
17 blueprint for health must include implementation plans in 5-year increments and must be
18 consistent with and reflected in the state health plan as described in Title 2, section 103.

19 **1. Advisory committee.** The commissioner shall appoint an advisory committee
20 consisting of consumers, health care practitioners, health care facilities, health carriers
21 and payors, which shall advise the commissioner regarding the blueprint for health. The
22 advisory committee shall hold public hearings and public meetings and draft
23 recommendations for the commissioner regarding the blueprint for health.

24 **2. Content.** The blueprint for health must include implementation steps for chronic
25 condition prevention and chronic care management, the identification of resources and
26 resource needs pertaining to chronic care and requirements for a chronic care information
27 system.

28 **3. Report.** The commissioner shall report to the Legislature by January 15th each
29 year regarding the blueprint for health, including recommendations for legislation to
30 further implement and improve the blueprint for health.

31 **Sec. 3. 22 MRSA §3174-LL** is enacted to read:

32 **§3174-LL. Chronic condition prevention and chronic care management program**

33 By January 1, 2009, the commissioner shall develop and implement a chronic
34 condition prevention and chronic care management program to provide information and
35 services to members of the MaineCare program who are at risk of requiring or who
36 require chronic care. By January 1, 2010, the commissioner shall expand the program to
37 provide information to all persons in the State who are at risk of requiring or who require

1 chronic care. The program must include a comprehensive chronic care information
2 system and strategies for maximizing the participation of health care practitioners and
3 health care facilities.

4

SUMMARY

5 This bill requires the Commissioner of Health and Human Services to develop and
6 implement a blueprint for health to address chronic care management and prevention of
7 chronic conditions. The bill requires the commissioner to develop and implement a
8 chronic condition prevention and chronic care management program by January 1, 2009
9 for the MaineCare population and to extend the educational component of the program by
10 January 1, 2010 for all persons statewide who are at risk of requiring or who require
11 chronic care. The bill directs the commissioner to report to the Legislature each year on
12 the blueprint for health, including recommendations for legislation for implementation
13 and improvement.