

MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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123rd MAINE LEGISLATURE

FIRST REGULAR SESSION-2007

Legislative Document

No. 1764

S.P. 625

March 27, 2007

**An Act To Increase the Wages of Direct Support Professional Staff
Based on Increases in the State Minimum Wage**

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 PERRY of Penobscot.

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

2 **Sec. 1. 22 MRSA §50** is enacted to read:

3 **§50. Direct support professional staff**

4 The department shall increase reimbursement to department-funded providers who
5 employ direct support professional staff by 3.8% of the wages attributed to those
6 employees effective October 1, 2007. The department shall also increase the direct
7 support professional staff wage component by the same percentage as any percentage
8 increase provided in Title 26, section 664.

9 **Sec. 2. Rules.** The Department of Health and Human Services shall adopt rules to
10 define direct support professional staff and to implement the direct support professional
11 staff wage increase in accordance with this Act. Rules adopted pursuant to this section
12 are routine technical rules as defined in the Maine Revised Statutes, Title 5, chapter 375,
13 subchapter 2-A.

14 **SUMMARY**

15 This bill requires the Department of Health and Human Services to increase the rate
16 of reimbursement for direct support professional staff costs by 3.8% effective October 1,
17 2007. It also requires the department to increase the wage component for direct support
18 professional staff whenever the State's minimum wage is increased.