

# MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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# 124th MAINE LEGISLATURE

## FIRST REGULAR SESSION-2009

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Legislative Document

No. 1059

S.P. 393

In Senate, March 17, 2009

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### Resolve, To Enhance Health Care for Direct Care Workers

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Reference to the Committee on Insurance and Financial 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 SULLIVAN of York.

1           **Sec. 1. Demonstration project established. Resolved:** That the Department  
2 of Professional and Financial Regulation, Bureau of Insurance shall set up a  
3 demonstration project, named the Direct Care Workforce Health Coverage Working  
4 Group, through which long-term care service providers unable to afford high-quality  
5 health insurance for their direct care workers may receive higher levels of reimbursement  
6 for MaineCare services they provide. The Bureau of Insurance shall assess what the  
7 effect of these workers' receiving this benefit has on worker retention; and be it further

8           **Sec. 2. Report. Resolved:** That the Department of Professional and Financial  
9 Regulation, Bureau of Insurance shall report to the joint standing committee of the  
10 Legislature having jurisdiction over insurance matters 4 years after the start of the  
11 program with a report and recommendations. The joint standing committee of the  
12 Legislature having jurisdiction over insurance matters may submit legislation; and be it  
13 further

14           **Sec. 3. Appropriations and allocations. Resolved:** That the following  
15 appropriations and allocations are made.

16       **PROFESSIONAL AND FINANCIAL REGULATION, DEPARTMENT OF**

17       **Insurance - Bureau of 0092**

18 Initiative: Provides funds for the Direct Care Workforce Health Coverage Working  
19 Group demonstration project.

20	<b>GENERAL FUND</b>	<b>2009-10</b>	<b>2010-11</b>
21	All Other	\$0	\$500,000
22			
23	GENERAL FUND TOTAL	\$0	\$500,000

24                               **SUMMARY**

25           This resolve requires the Department of Professional and Financial Regulation,  
26 Bureau of Insurance to establish a demonstration project named the Direct Care  
27 Workforce Health Coverage Working Group to help long-term care service providers  
28 unable to afford high-quality health insurance for their direct care workers to receive  
29 higher levels of reimbursement for MaineCare services they provide. The project will  
30 last 4 years and cost \$500,000. The bureau shall assess if this benefit affects worker  
31 retention. The bureau shall report to the joint standing committee of the Legislature  
32 having jurisdiction over insurance matters, which may submit legislation.