

MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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125th MAINE LEGISLATURE

FIRST REGULAR SESSION-2011

Legislative Document

No. 1520

S.P. 481

In Senate, April 28, 2011

An Act To Improve MaineCare and Promote Employment

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

Joseph G. Carleton Jr.

JOSEPH G. CARLETON, JR.
Secretary of the Senate

Presented by Senator BARTLETT of Cumberland.

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

2 **Sec. 1. 22 MRSA §3174-G, sub-§1, ¶E**, as amended by PL 2003, c. 469, Pt. A,
3 §5 and affected by c. 673, Pt. Y, §3, is further amended to read:

4 E. The parent or caretaker relative of a child described in paragraph B or D when the
5 child's family income is equal to or below 200% of the nonfarm income official
6 poverty line, subject to adjustment by the commissioner under this paragraph.
7 Medicaid services provided under this paragraph must be provided within the limits
8 of the program budget. Funds appropriated for services under this paragraph must
9 include an annual inflationary adjustment equivalent to the rate of inflation in the
10 Medicaid program. On a quarterly basis, the commissioner shall determine the fiscal
11 status of program expenditures under this paragraph. If the commissioner determines
12 that expenditures will exceed the funds available to provide Medicaid coverage
13 pursuant to this paragraph, the commissioner must adjust the income eligibility limit
14 for new applicants to the extent necessary to operate the program within the program
15 budget. If, after an adjustment has occurred pursuant to this paragraph, expenditures
16 fall below the program budget, the commissioner must raise the income eligibility
17 limit to the extent necessary to provide services to as many eligible persons as
18 possible within the fiscal constraints of the program budget, as long as the income
19 limit does not exceed 200% of the nonfarm income official poverty line; ~~and~~.

20 The parent or caretaker relative described in this paragraph who has received benefits
21 under this chapter in the past 3 months and whose income now exceeds the level in
22 this paragraph may purchase coverage under this chapter for a period of up to 18
23 months at a premium level that does not exceed the premiums established for
24 MaineCare under the Katie Beckett option authorized by the federal Tax Equity and
25 Fiscal Responsibility Act of 1982 and a contribution toward administrative costs no
26 greater than the maximum level allowed under the federal Consolidated Omnibus
27 Budget Reconciliation Act of 1985;

28 **Sec. 2. 22 MRSA §3174-G, sub-§1, ¶F**, as amended by PL 2003, c. 469, Pt. A,
29 §5 and affected by c. 673, Pt. Y, §3, is further amended to read:

30 F. A person 20 to 64 years of age who is not otherwise covered under paragraphs A
31 to E when the person's family income is below or equal to 125% of the nonfarm
32 income official poverty line, provided that the commissioner shall adjust the
33 maximum eligibility level in accordance with the requirements of the paragraph.

34 (2) If the commissioner reasonably anticipates the cost of the program to exceed
35 the budget of the population described in this paragraph, the commissioner shall
36 lower the maximum eligibility level to the extent necessary to provide coverage
37 to as many persons as possible within the program budget.

38 (3) The commissioner shall give at least 30 days' notice of the proposed change
39 in maximum eligibility level to the joint standing committee of the Legislature
40 having jurisdiction over appropriations and financial affairs and the joint standing
41 committee of the Legislature having jurisdiction over health and human services
42 matters;.

1 household income is equal to or below 200% of the nonfarm income official poverty line
2 eligible for Medicaid.