

# MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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# 126th MAINE LEGISLATURE

## SECOND REGULAR SESSION-2014

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Legislative Document

No. 1704

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S.P. 669

In Senate, January 8, 2014

### **An Act To Increase the Use of Dental Services by MaineCare-eligible Children**

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Approved for introduction by a majority of the Legislative Council pursuant to Joint Rule 203.

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

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "D M Grant".

DAREK M. GRANT  
Secretary of the Senate

Presented by Senator VITELLI of Sagadahoc.

Cosponsored by Senators: CRAVEN of Androscoggin, JOHNSON of Lincoln, LACHOWICZ of Kennebec, PATRICK of Oxford, Representatives: FARNSWORTH of Portland, VOLK of Scarborough.

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

2 **Sec. 1. 22 MRSA §3174-S, sub-§§5 and 6** are enacted to read:

3 **5. Number of children receiving dental services.** Beginning in January 2016, the  
4 report under subsection 4 must include the number of children treated annually under the  
5 Medicaid program and the dental services provided to these children.

6 **6. Report on children eligible to participate in the Medicaid program not**  
7 **receiving dental services.** The department, through the department's office of  
8 MaineCare services, shall prepare and provide to the commissioner a quarterly report  
9 containing the names of children from birth to 20 years of age who are eligible to  
10 participate in the Medicaid program and have not received dental services from a  
11 provider of dental services participating in the Medicaid program.

12 **Sec. 2. Pilot program to increase use of dental services by MaineCare-**  
13 **eligible children.** The Department of Health and Human Services, through the  
14 department's office of MaineCare services, in cooperation with the dental care  
15 community, shall establish a pilot program to increase the use of dental services by  
16 MaineCare-eligible children. The office shall examine the report prepared pursuant to the  
17 Maine Revised Statutes, Title 22, section 3174-S, subsection 6 to identify for  
18 participation in the pilot program MaineCare-eligible children who have not received  
19 dental services in the previous year. The pilot program must:

- 20 1. Work with the dental care community to identify appropriate providers;
- 21 2. Assist in arranging treatment for children who have not received dental services  
22 that are in the report; and
- 23 3. Employ an oral health coordinator who assists the MaineCare caseworkers in  
24 providing the services to eligible children.

25 **Sec. 3. Report.** The Department of Health and Human Services shall submit a  
26 report, including findings and recommendations, on the pilot program under section 2 to  
27 the joint standing committee of the Legislature having jurisdiction over health and human  
28 services matters no later than November 5, 2014. The joint standing committee may  
29 report out a bill related to the report to the First Regular Session of the 127th Legislature.

30 **SUMMARY**

31 This bill amends the Maine Revised Statutes, Title 22, section 3174-S to require the  
32 Department of Health and Human Services to include in its annual report to the joint  
33 standing committee of the Legislature having jurisdiction over health and human services  
34 matters the number of MaineCare-eligible children who receive dental services annually  
35 and what services they are provided and also to report quarterly to the Commissioner of  
36 Health and Human Services the names of MaineCare-eligible children from birth to 20  
37 years of age who are not receiving dental services. The bill directs the Department of  
38 Health and Human Services, through the department's office of MaineCare services in

1 cooperation with the dental care community, to design a pilot program to increase the use  
2 of dental services by MaineCare-eligible children. The bill also requires the Department  
3 of Health and Human Services to submit a report regarding the pilot program to the joint  
4 standing committee of the Legislature having jurisdiction over health and human services  
5 matters no later than November 5, 2014. The joint standing committee may report out a  
6 bill to the First Regular Session of the 127th Legislature.