

MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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127th MAINE LEGISLATURE

FIRST REGULAR SESSION-2015

Legislative Document

No. 854

H.P. 588

House of Representatives, March 11, 2015

**An Act To Increase Access to Health Security by Expanding
Federally Funded Health Care for Maine People**

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

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "R B. Hunt".

ROBERT B. HUNT
Clerk

Presented by Representative SANBORN of Gorham.
Cosponsored by Senator GRATWICK of Penobscot and
Representatives: BURSTEIN of Lincolnville, Speaker EVES of North Berwick, GATTINE of
Westbrook, HUBBELL of Bar Harbor, HYMANSON of York, McLEAN of Gorham,
ROTUNDO of Lewiston, Senator: MILLETT 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, ¶F**, as amended by PL 2011, c. 380, Pt. KK,
3 §2, is further amended to read:

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

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

12 (3) The commissioner shall give at least 30 days' notice of the proposed change
13 in maximum eligibility level to the joint standing committee of the Legislature
14 having jurisdiction over appropriations and financial affairs and the joint standing
15 committee of the Legislature having jurisdiction over health and human services
16 matters; ~~and~~

17 **Sec. 2. 22 MRSA §3174-G, sub-§1, ¶G**, as enacted by PL 2011, c. 380, Pt. KK,
18 §3, is amended to read:

19 G. A person who is a noncitizen legally admitted to the United States to the extent
20 that coverage is allowable by federal law if the person is:

21 (1) A woman during her pregnancy and up to 60 days following delivery; or

22 (2) A child under 21 years of age;

23 **Sec. 3. 22 MRSA §3174-G, sub-§1, ¶¶H and I** are enacted to read:

24 H. Beginning January 1, 2016, a person 21 to 64 years of age who is not otherwise
25 eligible for medical assistance under this section, who qualifies for medical assistance
26 pursuant to 42 United States Code, Section 1396a(a)(10)(A)(i)(VIII) and who has
27 income at or below 133% of the nonfarm income official poverty line plus 5% for the
28 applicable family size as required by federal law. A person eligible for medical
29 assistance under this paragraph must receive the same coverage as is provided to a
30 person eligible under paragraph E; and

31 I. Beginning October 1, 2019, a person 19 or 20 years of age who is not otherwise
32 eligible for medical assistance under this section, who qualifies for medical assistance
33 pursuant to 42 United States Code, Section 1396a(a)(10)(A)(i)(VIII) and who has
34 income at or below 133% of the nonfarm income official poverty line plus 5% for the
35 applicable family size as required by federal law. A person eligible for medical
36 assistance under this paragraph must receive the same coverage as is provided to a
37 person eligible under paragraph E.

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SUMMARY

This bill expands medical coverage under the MaineCare program to adults who qualify under federal law with incomes up to 133% of the nonfarm income official poverty line, with the 5% federal income adjustment for family size, and qualifies Maine to receive federal funding for 100% of the cost of coverage for members who enroll under the expansion. Adults who will be eligible are those 21 to 64 years of age beginning January 1, 2016 and adults 19 and 20 years of age beginning October 1, 2019.