



127th MAINE LEGISLATURE

FIRST REGULAR SESSION-2015

Legislative Document

No. 1079

S.P. 381

In Senate, March 24, 2015

Resolve, To Support and Encourage the Expansion of Adult Family Care Services at Residential Care Facilities

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

Heath & Fuit

HEATHER J.R. PRIEST Secretary of the Senate

Presented by Senator BURNS of Washington. Cosponsored by Representative TUELL of East Machias and Senators: DAVIS of Piscataquis, KATZ of Kennebec, Representatives: BLACK of Wilton, DUCHESNE of Hudson, Speaker EVES of North Berwick, GILBERT of Jay, PICKETT of Dixfield, SHERMAN of Hodgdon. Preamble. Whereas, rural and coastal areas of Maine have experienced closures of
 nursing facilities, reducing the number of long-term care options and causing family
 stress; and

- 4 **Whereas,** Maine has an aging population and the State must develop strategies to 5 allow the population to age in place; and
- 6 **Whereas,** residents of long-term care and residential care facilities want to age in 7 place, remaining close to their families; and
- 8 **Whereas,** couples with different acuity levels want to continue living together 9 despite having different requirements for support; now, therefore, be it

10 **PART A**

11 Sec. A-1. The Department of Health and Human Services to increase 12 residential care facility beds. Resolved: That the Department of Health and 13 Human Services shall determine the level of need for residential care facility beds in the 14 State and correspondingly increase the number of MaineCare residential care facility beds 15 by up to 40 beds to create greater availability of adult family care services. If the 16 department determines more beds are required, it shall submit legislation to create the 17 additional funding needed; and be it further

18 Sec. A-2. Appropriations and allocations. Resolved: That the following
 19 appropriations and allocations are made.

20 HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES, DEPARTMENT OF (FORMERLY DHS)

21 Medical Care - Payments to Providers 0147

Initiative: Provides funding for up to 40 beds in MaineCare residential care facilities to create greater availability of adult family care services in the State.

24 25 26	GENERAL FUND All Other	2015-16 \$562,912	2016-17 \$559,950
27	GENERAL FUND TOTAL	\$562,912	\$559,950
28	FEDERAL EXPENDITURES FUND	2015-16	2016-17
29 30 31	All Other FEDERAL EXPENDITURES FUND TOTAL	\$937,088 	\$940,050 \$940,050

PART B

2 Department of Health and Human Services to review Sec. B-1. reimbursement levels at residential care facilities. **Resolved:** 3 That the Department of Health and Human Services shall review the reimbursement levels at 4 residential care facilities and create a new level of reimbursement that takes into account 5 the greater levels of care required by residents in those facilities who choose to age in 6 7 place. The review must take into account the financial position of facilities in those areas 8 of the State that have recently lost a significant number of nursing facility beds; and be it 9 further

10 Sec. B-2. Department of Health and Human Services to develop a 11 demonstration program. Resolved: That the Department of Health and Human 12 Services shall develop a plan for a demonstration program in Washington County to 13 establish facilities with suite-type settings that allow couples to remain living together 14 when both spouses qualify for MaineCare benefits. The demonstration program must also 15 take into account the needs of couples in which one or both spouses have a diagnosis of 16 dementia; and be it further

Sec. B-3. Report. Resolved: That the Department of Health and Human Services
shall submit a report regarding its findings, pursuant to this resolve, to the Joint Standing
Committee on Health and Human Services no later than January 15, 2016.

SUMMARY

21 This resolve increases by up to 40 the number of available residential care beds in Maine. This resolve also directs the Department of Health and Human Services to review 22 23 the reimbursement levels at residential care facilities to identify if an increase in 24 MaineCare funding is necessary to account for higher levels of care at these facilities and directs the department to develop a demonstration program in Washington County for 25 suite-type settings that allow couples to remain living together. The department is also 26 27 required to submit a report to the Joint Standing Committee on Health and Human Services no later than January 15, 2016. 28

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