

MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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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.

A handwritten signature in cursive script, reading 'Heather J.R. Priest'.

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.

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PART B

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

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

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 the reimbursement levels at residential care facilities to identify if an increase in 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 suite-type settings that allow couples to remain living together. The department is also required to submit a report to the Joint Standing Committee on Health and Human Services no later than January 15, 2016.