

MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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127th MAINE LEGISLATURE

SECOND REGULAR SESSION-2016

Legislative Document

No. 1619

S.P. 657

In Senate, March 1, 2016

**Resolve, Regarding Home Care Service Rates for Serving Persons
with Complex Medical Needs**

Reported by Senator BRAKEY of Androscoggin for the Joint Standing Committee on Health and Human Services pursuant to Joint Order 2016, S.P. 639.

Reference to the Committee on Health and Human Services suggested and ordered printed pursuant to Joint Rule 218.

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Heather J.R. Priest".

HEATHER J.R. PRIEST
Secretary of the Senate

1 **Sec. 1. Department of Health and Human Services; enhanced rates for**
2 **home care services. Resolved:** That, beginning October 15, 2016, the Department of
3 Health and Human Services' office of aging and disability services shall implement a
4 demonstration project to provide enhanced rates for home care services, with
5 participation limited to patients with complex medical needs who are enrolled in the
6 Maine "Homeward Bound" program, which is funded by the federal Centers for Medicaid
7 and Medicare Services. The demonstration project must allow for enhanced rates that
8 will provide additional reimbursement for services provided by personal support
9 specialists to patients with complex medical needs, as well as on-site training of personal
10 support specialist staff before services are provided, in order to promote quality of care
11 and retention of staff serving patient populations with complex medical needs. The
12 Department of Health and Human Services' office of aging and disability services shall
13 submit a report to the joint standing committee of the Legislature having jurisdiction over
14 health and human services matters no later than January 15, 2018 on its findings and
15 recommendations regarding the provision of enhanced rates for home care services under
16 this section. The joint standing committee of the Legislature having jurisdiction over
17 health and human services matters is authorized to report out legislation relating to the
18 demonstration project to the Second Regular Session of the 128th Legislature; and be it
19 further

20 **Sec. 2. Department of Health and Human Services; home care services**
21 **review. Resolved:** That the Department of Health and Human Services' quality
22 assurance review committee, as established in the Maine Revised Statutes, Title 22,
23 section 5107-I shall conduct a review of the adequacy of home care services provided to
24 individuals with complex needs under Chapter 101: MaineCare Benefits Manual,
25 Chapters II and III, Section 19, Home and Community Benefits for the Elderly and
26 Adults with Disabilities. The review must include, at a minimum, consideration of
27 quality of care, emergency department visits and hospital admissions of individuals
28 receiving services under Section 19. In conducting the review, the quality assurance
29 review committee shall request input from, at a minimum, consumers, care coordination
30 agencies, patient advocacy organizations and home care agencies. The Department of
31 Health and Human Services shall submit a report, no later than January 15, 2017, to the
32 joint standing committee of the Legislature having jurisdiction over health and human
33 services matters detailing the quality assurance review committee's findings and any
34 recommendations for legislation regarding the adequacy of home care services provided
35 under Section 19. After reviewing the report, the joint standing committee of the
36 Legislature having jurisdiction over health and human services matters may report out
37 legislation relating to the report to the First Regular Session of the 128th Legislature.

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SUMMARY

This resolve includes recommendations of the Commission to Study Difficult-to-place Patients. It requires the Department of Health and Human Services' office of aging and disability services to implement a demonstration project that will provide enhanced rates for home care services, with participation limited to patients with complex medical needs who are enrolled in the Maine "Homeward Bound" program, which is funded by the federal Centers for Medicaid and Medicare Services. The Department of Health and

1 Human Services' office of aging and disability services is directed to submit a report, no
2 later than January 15, 2018, to the joint standing committee of the Legislature having
3 jurisdiction over health and human services matters detailing its findings and any
4 recommendations regarding the provision of enhanced rates for home care services.

5 The resolve also requires the Department of Health and Human Services' quality
6 assurance review committee to conduct a review of the adequacy of home care services
7 provided to individuals with complex needs under Chapter 101: MaineCare Benefits
8 Manual, Chapters II and III, Section 19, Home and Community Benefits for the Elderly
9 and Adults with Disabilities. The Department of Health and Human Services is directed
10 to submit a report, no later than January 15, 2017, to the joint standing committee of the
11 Legislature having jurisdiction over health and human services matters detailing the
12 quality assurance review committee's findings and any recommendations for legislation
13 regarding the adequacy of home care services provided under Section 19.

14 The joint standing committee of the legislature having jurisdiction over health and
15 human services matters is authorized to report out legislation pursuant to both of the
16 reports submitted pursuant to this legislation.