



128th MAINE LEGISLATURE

FIRST REGULAR SESSION-2017

Legislative Document

No. 451

S.P. 153

In Senate, February 7, 2017

An Act To Continue MaineCare Coverage for Parents during the Rehabilitation and Reunification Process

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

Heath & Print

HEATHER J.R. PRIEST Secretary of the Senate

Presented by Senator CHIPMAN of Cumberland. Cosponsored by Senator: VITELLI of Sagadahoc, Representatives: CHACE of Durham, HEAD of Bethel, HYMANSON of York, MADIGAN of Waterville, MALABY of Hancock, PARKER of South Berwick, PERRY of Calais.

- 1 Be it enacted by the People of the State of Maine as follows:
- 2 Sec. 1. 22 MRSA §3174-ZZ is enacted to read:

3 §3174-ZZ. Coverage for parents participating in rehabilitation and reunification 4 <u>efforts</u>

5 Notwithstanding section 3174, a parent receiving benefits under this chapter as a 6 parent of one or more dependent minor children who have been removed from the home 7 of that parent pursuant to section 4036-B continues to be eligible for benefits under this 8 chapter until either the department discontinues rehabilitation and reunification efforts 9 pursuant to section 4041 or parental rights have been terminated pursuant to section 4055, 10 whichever occurs first.

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SUMMARY

This bill requires the Department of Health and Human Services to continue to provide MaineCare coverage to a parent who is a MaineCare member and who is participating in rehabilitation and reunification efforts in accordance with a rehabilitation and reunification plan. The bill requires the department to continue coverage until the discontinuance of reunification efforts or parental rights are terminated, whichever is earlier.