

MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

The following document is provided by the
LAW AND LEGISLATIVE DIGITAL LIBRARY
at the Maine State Law and Legislative Reference Library
<http://legislature.maine.gov/lawlib>



Reproduced from electronic originals
(may include minor formatting differences from printed original)



128th MAINE LEGISLATURE

FIRST REGULAR SESSION-2017

Legislative Document

No. 1301

H.P. 898

House of Representatives, April 4, 2017

An Act To Improve Access to Preventive, Cost-saving Dental Services

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 MARTIN of Eagle Lake.
Cosponsored by Senator KATZ of Kennebec and
Representatives: CHACE of Durham, FARNSWORTH of Portland, FREY of Bangor,
HYMANSON of York, MALABY of Hancock, STEARNS of Guilford, WADSWORTH of
Hiram, Senator: CHIPMAN of Cumberland.

1 **Be it enacted by the People of the State of Maine as follows:**

2 **Sec. 1. 22 MRSA §3174-F, sub-§1, ¶D**, as amended by PL 1997, c. 159, §1, is
3 further amended to read:

4 D. Treatment necessary to relieve pain, eliminate infection or prevent imminent
5 tooth loss; ~~and~~

6 **Sec. 2. 22 MRSA §3174-F, sub-§1, ¶F**, as enacted by PL 1997, c. 159, §2, is
7 amended to read:

8 F. Other dental services, including full and partial dentures, medically necessary to
9 correct or ameliorate an underlying medical condition, if the department determines
10 that provision of those services will be cost-effective in comparison to the provision
11 of other covered medical services for the treatment of that condition; and

12 **Sec. 3. 22 MRSA §3174-F, sub-§1, ¶G** is enacted to read:

13 G. Beginning October 1, 2017, dental services including an annual comprehensive
14 oral examination, including necessary x-rays or other imaging and preventive
15 services, including prophylaxis, topical fluoride, sealants, oral hygiene instruction,
16 behavior management and smoking cessation counseling and other services as
17 determined by the department. The department shall provide restorative treatment
18 necessary to prevent or treat oral health conditions, to reduce or eliminate the need
19 for future acute oral health care, and to avoid more costly medical or dental care.

20 **Sec. 4. 22 MRSA §3174-F, sub-§§3 and 4** are enacted to read:

21 **3. Notice to MaineCare members.** Beginning October 1, 2017, the department
22 shall provide notice of dental benefits available under this section to an individual when
23 the individual enrolls as an adult member of MaineCare.

24 **4. Notice to providers.** Annually, the department shall provide to providers of
25 services under this section educational opportunities relating to the scope of benefits
26 covered under this section and administrative requirements for obtaining these benefits.
27 The educational opportunities required under this subsection may be delivered by
28 electronic newsletters, educational training meetings, policy briefings and fact sheets.
29 This subsection takes effect October 1, 2017.

30 **Sec. 5. Notice to MaineCare members.** By November 1, 2017, the Department
31 of Health and Human Services shall provide to MaineCare members notice of adult
32 dental benefits available under the Maine Revised Statutes, Title 22, section 3174-F,
33 subsection 1.

34 **Sec. 6. Written notice to providers.** By November 1, 2017, the Department of
35 Health and Human Services shall provide to providers of dental care enrolled as
36 MaineCare providers written notice of adult dental benefits available under the Maine
37 Revised Statutes, Title 22, section 3174-F, subsection 1.

