

MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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128th MAINE LEGISLATURE

FIRST REGULAR SESSION-2017

Legislative Document

No. 1430

H.P. 984

House of Representatives, April 13, 2017

**An Act To Develop a Statewide Resource and Referral Center and
Develop Hub-and-spoke Models To Improve Access, Treatment and
Recovery for Those with Substance Use Disorder**

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

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Robert B. Hunt".

ROBERT B. HUNT
Clerk

Presented by Representative VACHON of Scarborough.
Cosponsored by Senator DILL of Penobscot and
Representatives: CHACE of Durham, COREY of Windham, HYMANSON of York,
MALABY of Hancock, McCREIGHT of Harpswell, SIROCKI of Scarborough, STEWART of
Presque Isle, Senator: CUSHING of Penobscot.

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

2 **PART A**

3 **Sec. A-1. 5 MRSA §20054** is enacted to read:

4 **§20054. Statewide resource and referral center**

5 The department shall operate a statewide resource and referral center. The center
6 must provide resources and referrals for any person seeking substance abuse treatment
7 options, any family member of a person currently receiving substance abuse treatment,
8 friends of a person currently receiving or seeking substance abuse treatment, any member
9 of law enforcement and any substance abuse treatment provider. The center must allow
10 for multiple ways for a person or provider to access the center including a telephone
11 hotline and Internet access. The department must develop protocols for referring a person
12 needing substance abuse treatment to treatment services and must develop networks for
13 providers of substance abuse treatment services. This section does not prohibit any
14 person from obtaining services and treatment for substance use disorder independent
15 from the resource and referral center.

16 **PART B**

17 **Sec. B-1. Definitions.** For the purposes of this Part, unless the context otherwise
18 indicates, the following terms have the following meanings:

19 1. "Department" means the Department of Health and Human Services.

20 2. "Hub" means a licensed substance abuse treatment facility providing
21 comprehensive services with an intensive outpatient program for individuals with acute
22 needs including but not limited to licensed behavioral health providers, community
23 mental health centers, methadone clinics, hospitals and federally qualified health centers.

24 3. "Integrated medication-assisted treatment" means a combination of medication,
25 counseling and behavioral therapy that has proven effective in treating substance use
26 disorder.

27 4. "Spoke" means a primary care practice providing evidence-based medication-
28 assisted therapy for substance use disorder, including but not limited to prescriptions for
29 medication proven effective in the treatment of substance use disorder, and incorporating
30 integrated behavioral health treatment either directly or through close relationships with
31 integrated behavioral health providers.

32 **Sec. B-2. Department of Health and Human Services to support hub-and-**
33 **spoke model for substance use disorder treatment.** No later than October 1,
34 2017, the Department of Health and Human Services shall contract for evidence-based
35 treatment to support individuals with substance use disorder, including, but not limited to,
36 hub-and-spoke models. The department shall seek to support treatment models that serve
37 individuals across the State using integrated medication-assisted treatment. An individual
38 receiving treatment may receive treatment at a hub or a spoke, whichever is most

1 appropriate for the individual's needs, and an individual may move between hubs and
2 spokes as needs change.

3 **Sec. B-3. Department of Health and Human Services to seek federal**
4 **funding.** The department shall seek federal funding to support integrated medication-
5 assisted treatment and a hub-and-spoke model of delivery of services and distribute
6 resources to hubs and spokes based on needs.

7 **Sec. B-4. Development of grant funding for education.** The department shall
8 provide grant funding to hubs to provide initial and continuing education and training to
9 primary care providers across the State acting as spokes.

10 **Sec. B-5. Provide treatment to uninsured individuals seeking treatment.**
11 The department shall provide funds to support treatment for uninsured individuals
12 seeking integrated medication-assisted treatment. Services provided must include health
13 care provider visits, prescription medications such as buprenorphine, behavioral health
14 treatment, urine drug screening, case management and any other services associated with
15 providing evidence-based medication-assisted treatment.

16 **Sec. B-6. Primary care reimbursement rates.** The department shall develop a
17 primary care reimbursement rate for integrated medication-assisted treatment that
18 includes extended patient care visit times, urine drug testing, counseling and any other
19 addiction treatment resources that are provided at a primary care practice.

20 **Sec. B-7. Evaluation and assessment.** The department shall develop
21 assessment measures for performance evaluation of the hub-and-spoke model.
22 Assessment measures must include numbers and percentages of referrals of individuals
23 seeking substance abuse treatment; substance abuse treatment success including sobriety,
24 stability and workplace participation; adequacy of counseling services; adequacy of
25 reimbursement rates; and any other relevant measures.

26 **Sec. B-8. Department of Labor to develop program for individuals in**
27 **recovery.** The Department of Labor shall develop a career center program to assist
28 individuals in treatment for substance use disorders or in recovery with career planning
29 and taking advantage of employment opportunities. The Department of Labor and the
30 Department of Health and Human Services shall jointly work to develop referral
31 connections between the hub-and-spoke treatment services and the career center program.

32 **Sec. B-9. Report.** No later than January 1, 2020, the department shall report to the
33 joint standing committee of the Legislature having jurisdiction over health and human
34 services matters on the progress and implementation of the hub-and-spoke model, federal
35 funding, grants dispersed and evaluation and assessment measures. The joint standing
36 committee of the Legislature having jurisdiction over health and human services matters
37 is authorized to report out legislation to the Second Regular Session of the 129th
38 Legislature related to the report.

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SUMMARY

This bill establishes a statewide resource and referral center for individuals with substance use disorders and friends and family members of individuals with substance use disorders, law enforcement and providers of substance abuse treatment. It requires the Department of Health and Human Services to contract with evidence-based substance abuse treatment providers across the State to provide integrated medication-assisted treatment to individuals with substance use disorders. Hubs provide comprehensive services for acute needs, and spokes are primary care facilities that offer behavioral health services or are connected to providers of those services. The Department of Health and Human Services is directed to fund treatment for individuals without insurance and develop a rate of reimbursement that takes into account the multiple parts of treatment an individual with a substance use disorder requires in addition to medication. The Department of Labor is directed to develop a career center program to assist individuals in treatment for substance use disorders or in recovery with career planning and taking advantage of employment opportunities. The Department of Health and Human Services is directed to develop assessment measures to evaluate performance and present a report on progress, implementation and assessment to the joint standing committee of the Legislature having jurisdiction over health and human services matters by January 1, 2020.