

# MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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# 128th MAINE LEGISLATURE

## FIRST REGULAR SESSION-2017

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Legislative Document

No. 1481

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H.P. 1020

House of Representatives, April 18, 2017

**Resolve, To Establish a Pilot Project To Provide Travel Vouchers to  
Persons with Disabilities in Rural Communities**

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Reported by Representative HYMANSON of York for the Joint Standing Committee on Health and Human Services pursuant to Public Law 2015, chapter 452, section 3.

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 "R B. Hunt".

ROBERT B. HUNT  
Clerk

1           **Sec. 1. Department of Health and Human Services to develop a**  
2 **transportation pilot project. Resolved:** That by January 1, 2018, the Department  
3 of Health and Human Services, referred to in this resolve as "the department," shall issue  
4 a request for proposals for a one-year pilot project, referred to in this resolve as "the pilot  
5 project," to develop travel voucher transportation programs for individuals with  
6 disabilities living in rural areas of the State. The department shall consult with the  
7 Statewide Independent Living Council when developing the pilot project and the request  
8 for proposals. The pilot project must include at least 2 separate transportation programs,  
9 which must be conducted in any of the following: Aroostook County, Washington  
10 County or counties in western Maine. The geographical areas chosen must have limited  
11 existing transportation infrastructure and a disability service provider present in the area.  
12 The pilot project must include the following:

- 13           1. Standards of eligibility for individual riders, including riders' levels of income  
14 and disability;
- 15           2. A variety of transportation models;
- 16           3. A variety of trip purposes, including medical, professional and recreational  
17 purposes;
- 18           4. Opportunities for individual riders to exercise independence and control;
- 19           5. Partnerships with local transportation providers and volunteer drivers; and
- 20           6. Assessment and evaluation standards; and be it further

21           **Sec. 2. Investigate grant sources. Resolved:** That the department shall  
22 investigate and identify grant opportunities that could be used to fund the pilot project or  
23 supplement state funding for the pilot project established pursuant to section 1 of this  
24 resolve. Funds from all sources, including from the General Fund, allocated or  
25 appropriated to the pilot project may not total more than \$100,000 for one year; and be it  
26 further

27           **Sec. 3. Report. Resolved:** That, no later than November 30, 2018, the  
28 department shall report to the Joint Standing Committee on Health and Human Services  
29 the progress and implementation of the pilot project established pursuant to section 1 of  
30 this resolve. The report must outline the standards of eligibility, transportation models,  
31 the purposes of trips, the opportunities for riders to exercise independence, partnership  
32 with local providers, evaluation standards, expenditures and funding sources. The joint  
33 standing committee of the Legislature having jurisdiction over health and human services  
34 matters may report out a bill to the First Regular Session of the 129th Legislature related  
35 to the report.

## SUMMARY

37           This resolve incorporates the recommendations of the Statewide Independent Living  
38 Council's travel voucher working group convened pursuant to Public Law 2015, chapter

1 452, section 3. It requires the Department of Health and Human Services to issue a  
2 request for proposals for a one-year pilot project to develop travel voucher transportation  
3 programs for individuals with disabilities living in rural areas of the State. The  
4 department is required to report on the progress and implementation of the project to the  
5 Joint Standing Committee on Health and Human Services no later than November 30,  
6 2018.