

MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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129th MAINE LEGISLATURE

FIRST REGULAR SESSION-2019

Legislative Document

No. 428

H.P. 337

House of Representatives, January 29, 2019

**An Act To Establish Wage and Employment Parity between Adult
and Child Protective Services Caseworkers in the Department of
Health and Human Services**

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

A handwritten signature in cursive script, reading "R B. Hunt".

ROBERT B. HUNT
Clerk

Presented by Representative RECKITT of South Portland.
Cosponsored by Representatives: COLLINGS of Portland, GRAMLICH of Old Orchard
Beach, HEPLER of Woolwich, HOBBS of Wells, INGWERSEN of Arundel.

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

2 **Sec. 1. 22 MRSA §3473, sub-§4** is enacted to read:

3 **4. Mandatory training.** The department shall provide to a new employee engaged
4 in protective services at least one week of training related to the employee's job
5 responsibilities.

6 **Sec. 2. Staffing levels.** The number of supervisory positions relating to adult
7 protective services within the Department of Health and Human Services' office of aging
8 and disability services must equal the number of supervisory positions within the
9 Department of Health and Human Services, Office of Child and Family Services relating
10 to child protective services.

11 **Sec. 3. Appropriations and allocations.** The following appropriations and
12 allocations are made.

13 **HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES, DEPARTMENT OF**

14 **Office of Aging and Disability Services Adult Protective Services Z040**

15 Initiative: Provides increased funding for the creation of 2 Adult Protective Services
16 Caseworker Supervisor positions within the Office of Aging and Disability Services
17 Adult Protective Services program to achieve the same supervisor to caseworker ratio as
18 the child protective services within the Office of Child and Family Services.

19

| | | | |
|----|-------------------------------|------------------|------------------|
| 20 | GENERAL FUND | 2019-20 | 2020-21 |
| 21 | POSITIONS - LEGISLATIVE COUNT | 2.000 | 2.000 |
| 22 | Personal Services | \$167,930 | \$173,805 |
| 23 | All Other | \$12,572 | \$12,572 |
| 24 | | | |
| 25 | GENERAL FUND TOTAL | <u>\$180,502</u> | <u>\$186,377</u> |

26 **Office of Aging and Disability Services Adult Protective Services Z040**

27 Initiative: Notwithstanding the Maine Revised Statutes, Title 5, section 7065, provides
28 funding for the recruitment and retention of employees in Adult Protective Services
29 Caseworker positions and Adult Protective Services Caseworker Supervisor positions
30 with a \$5 per wage-hour stipend payment.

31

| | | | |
|----|---------------------|------------------|------------------|
| 32 | GENERAL FUND | 2019-20 | 2020-21 |
| 33 | Personal Services | \$696,800 | \$696,800 |
| 34 | | | |
| 35 | GENERAL FUND TOTAL | <u>\$696,800</u> | <u>\$696,800</u> |

36

| | | | |
|---|-------------------------------------|------------------|------------------|
| 1 | HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES, | | |
| 2 | DEPARTMENT OF | | |
| 3 | DEPARTMENT TOTALS | 2019-20 | 2020-21 |
| 4 | | | |
| 5 | GENERAL FUND | \$877,302 | \$883,177 |
| 6 | | | |
| 7 | DEPARTMENT TOTAL - ALL FUNDS | \$877,302 | \$883,177 |

8 **SUMMARY**

9 This bill requires the Department of Health and Human Services to provide at least
10 one week of training to new employees engaged in adult protective services. It requires
11 the number of supervisory positions in adult protective services and child protective
12 services to be identical. It provides funding for the recruitment and retention of
13 employees in Adult Protective Services Caseworker positions and Adult Protective
14 Services Caseworker Supervisor positions with a \$5 per wage-hour stipend payment.