

# MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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Amendment Name: Amendment CA (H-790) (LD 835 2020)

Date: 7/28/2020



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Date: (Filing No. H- )

**VETERANS AND LEGAL AFFAIRS**

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**STATE OF MAINE  
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES  
129TH LEGISLATURE  
SECOND SPECIAL SESSION**

COMMITTEE AMENDMENT “ ” to H.P. 609, L.D. 835, Bill, “An Act To Increase Funding for Case Managers for Veterans”

Amend the bill by striking out the title and substituting the following:

**'Resolve, To Extend the Pilot Program for Providing Mental Health Case Management Services to Veterans'**

Amend the bill by striking out everything after the title and inserting the following:

**'Emergency preamble. Whereas,** acts and resolves of the Legislature do not become effective until 90 days after adjournment unless enacted as emergencies; and

**Whereas,** this legislation extends a crucial and highly successful pilot program that provides coordinated mental health care and case management services to veterans; and

**Whereas,** one of the 2 regional contracts for providing these services is scheduled to expire on July 1, 2020, which will likely occur before the 90-day period expires; and

**Whereas,** in the judgment of the Legislature, these facts create an emergency within the meaning of the Constitution of Maine and require the following legislation as immediately necessary for the preservation of the public peace, health and safety; now, therefore, be it

**Sec. 1. Resolve 2017, c. 24, Pt. B, §1, amended. Resolved:** That Resolve 2017, c. 24, Pt. B, §1 is amended to read:

**Sec. B-1. Commissioner of Health and Human Services to establish pilot program to provide mental health case management services to veterans. Resolved:** That, beginning January 1, 2018, the Commissioner of Health and Human Services, referred to in this Part as "the commissioner," shall establish a pilot program to provide contracted case management services to provide necessary mental health treatment to veterans who are residents of the State. Case management services must include assisting veterans in gaining a range of mental and behavioral health services, which must include inpatient mental health care services. In establishing the pilot

**COMMITTEE AMENDMENT**

1 program, the commissioner shall consult with the Director of the Maine Bureau of ~~Maine~~  
2 Veterans' Services within the Department of Defense, Veterans and Emergency  
3 Management, referred to in this Part as "the director," to identify regions where case  
4 management services are most needed and to identify veterans seeking case management  
5 services who are enrolled with the United States Department of Veterans Affairs and  
6 those who would likely be eligible to be enrolled. The pilot program described in this  
7 section must continue until ~~January 1, 2020~~ June 30, 2021 or until the funds provided in  
8 Part C are exhausted.

9 1. The commissioner, with the assistance of the director, shall seek to coordinate  
10 services with the United States Department of Veterans Affairs and state agencies that  
11 offer mental health care services or provide assistance to veterans.

12 2. The commissioner may enter into regional contracts, including a contract with a  
13 provider that has experience providing services in northern Maine, for the purpose of  
14 ensuring a statewide network of case management that provides coordinated mental  
15 health care services for Maine veterans, including, but not limited to, inpatient treatment  
16 as clinically required.

17 3. The commissioner, with the assistance of the director, shall establish criteria to  
18 determine eligibility for case management services to be provided in accordance with this  
19 section. A veteran who has received a mental health diagnosis or mental health disability  
20 rating from the United States Department of Veterans Affairs must be considered eligible  
21 for case management services. A veteran who is not enrolled with the United States  
22 Department of Veterans Affairs who is determined to require mental health care services  
23 by a licensed mental health professional may be considered eligible for case management  
24 and other behavioral health services based on the individual needs of the veteran.

25 4. The director shall work to assist veterans receiving case management services  
26 under the pilot program who are not enrolled with the United States Department of  
27 Veterans Affairs to determine eligibility and to assist with those veterans' enrollment and  
28 with filing claims to the United States Department of Veterans Affairs.

29 5. Case management and mental health professionals selected to participate in the  
30 pilot program must demonstrate military and veteran cultural competency.

31 6. An individual who served in the United States Armed Forces and meets the  
32 federal definition of veteran or who has served or is currently serving in the Maine Army  
33 National Guard or Air National Guard or the Reserves of the United States Armed Forces  
34 is eligible. Character of discharge is not a disqualifying eligibility criterion.

35 7. All veterans participating in the pilot program must be accounted for in the  
36 Department of Defense, Veterans and Emergency Management, Maine Bureau of ~~Maine~~  
37 Veterans' Services and the Department of Health and Human Services data collections.

38 8. ~~Upon conclusion of the pilot program~~ By February 1, 2021, the commissioner, in  
39 consultation with the director, shall prepare a written report of the services provided and  
40 make recommendations to the joint standing committee of the Legislature having  
41 jurisdiction over veterans affairs if appropriate; and be it further

42 **Sec. 2. Resolve 2017, c. 24, Pt. C, §2, enacted. Resolved:** That Resolve 2017,  
43 c. 24, Pt. C, §2 is enacted to read:

1           **Sec. C-2. Appropriations and allocations. Resolved:** That the following  
 2 appropriations and allocations are made.

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

4           **Veterans Mental Health Case Management and Services Fund Z261**

5           Initiative: Provides one-time funding for a new contract for case management services for  
 6 veterans in Aroostook and Washington counties through June 30, 2021.

7	<b>GENERAL FUND</b>	<b>2019-20</b>	<b>2020-21</b>
8	All Other	\$0	\$200,000
9			
10	GENERAL FUND TOTAL	<u>\$0</u>	<u>\$200,000</u>

11           **Veterans Mental Health Case Management and Services Fund Z261**

12           Initiative: Provides one-time funding to continue current contracts for case management  
 13 services for veterans through June 30, 2021.

14	<b>GENERAL FUND</b>	<b>2019-20</b>	<b>2020-21</b>
15	All Other	\$0	\$118,056
16			
17	GENERAL FUND TOTAL	<u>\$0</u>	<u>\$118,056</u>

18           **HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES,**  
 19           **DEPARTMENT OF**  
 20           **DEPARTMENT TOTALS**

21		<b>2019-20</b>	<b>2020-21</b>
22	<b>GENERAL FUND</b>	<b>\$0</b>	<b>\$318,056</b>
23			
24	DEPARTMENT TOTAL - ALL FUNDS	<u>\$0</u>	<u>\$318,056</u>

25           **Sec. 3. Appropriations and allocations. Resolved:** That the following  
 26 appropriations and allocations are made.

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

28           **Veterans Mental Health Case Management and Services Fund Z261**

29           Initiative: Provides one-time funding for a new contract for case management services for  
 30 veterans in Aroostook and Washington counties through June 30, 2021.

31	<b>GENERAL FUND</b>	<b>2019-20</b>	<b>2020-21</b>
32	All Other	\$0	\$200,000
33			

1 GENERAL FUND TOTAL \$0 \$200,000

2 **Veterans Mental Health Case Management and Services Fund Z261**

3 Initiative: Provides one-time funding to continue current contracts for case management  
4 services for veterans through June 30, 2021.

5	<b>GENERAL FUND</b>	<b>2019-20</b>	<b>2020-21</b>
6	All Other	\$0	\$118,056
7			
8	GENERAL FUND TOTAL	<u>\$0</u>	<u>\$118,056</u>

9	<b>HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES,</b>		
10	<b>DEPARTMENT OF</b>		
11	<b>DEPARTMENT TOTALS</b>	<b>2019-20</b>	<b>2020-21</b>
12			
13	<b>GENERAL FUND</b>	<b>\$0</b>	<b>\$318,056</b>
14			
15	<b>DEPARTMENT TOTAL - ALL FUNDS</b>	<u><b>\$0</b></u>	<u><b>\$318,056</b></u>

16 **Emergency clause.** In view of the emergency cited in the preamble, this  
17 legislation takes effect when approved.'

18 Amend the bill by relettering or renumbering any nonconsecutive Part letter or  
19 section number to read consecutively.

20 **SUMMARY**

21 This amendment, which is the unanimous report of the committee, replaces the bill,  
22 which is a concept draft, with a resolve that extends until June 30, 2021 the pilot program  
23 for providing mental health case management services to veterans established in Resolve  
24 2017, chapter 24, Part B, section 1 and expands the pilot program to include a service  
25 provider with experience in northern Maine. The amendment also adds an appropriations  
26 and allocations section and an emergency preamble and emergency clause.

27 **FISCAL NOTE REQUIRED**

28 **(See attached)**



# 129th MAINE LEGISLATURE

LD 835

LR 1723(02)

## An Act To Increase Funding for Case Managers for Veterans

### Fiscal Note for Bill as Amended by Committee Amendment " "

Committee: Veterans and Legal Affairs

Fiscal Note Required: Yes

### Fiscal Note

	FY 2019-20	FY 2020-21	Projections FY 2021-22	Projections FY 2022-23
<b>Net Cost (Savings)</b>				
General Fund	\$0	\$318,056	\$0	\$0
<b>Appropriations/Allocations</b>				
General Fund	\$0	\$318,056	\$0	\$0

#### Fiscal Detail and Notes

The bill includes a one-time General Fund appropriation to the Department of Health and Human Services of \$318,056 in fiscal year 2020-21 for a new contract for Aroostook and Washington counties and to continue the current contracts for case management services for veterans through June 30, 2021.

Additional costs to the Department of Defense, Veterans and Emergency Management associated with the pilot project can be absorbed within existing budgeted resources.