



129th MAINE LEGISLATURE

FIRST REGULAR SESSION-2019

Legislative Document

No. 1450

H.P. 1062

House of Representatives, April 2, 2019

Resolve, To Mitigate the Increasing Waiting List for Services under the MaineCare Section 21 Waiver Program

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

R(+ B. Hunt

ROBERT B. HUNT Clerk

Presented by Representative O'CONNOR of Berwick. Cosponsored by Senator BELLOWS of Kennebec and Representatives: BLIER of Buxton, HYMANSON of York, JAVNER of Chester, PRESCOTT of Waterboro, RYKERSON of Kittery, SAMPSON of Alfred, Senators: FOLEY of York, LAWRENCE of York.

1 Sec. 1. Pilot project. Resolved: That, beginning January 1, 2020 and ending 2 December 1, 2021, the Department of Health and Human Services shall establish a pilot project to provide housing to adults with intellectual disabilities or autism spectrum 3 disorder who are on the waiting list for home and community-based benefits provided 4 under the department's rule Chapter 101: MaineCare Benefits Manual, Chapter II, Section 5 21, Home and Community Benefits for Members with Intellectual Disabilities or Autism 6 Spectrum Disorder. The pilot project must be modeled on a program operated in the 7 Town of Kittery by the nonprofit corporation A House for ME. The pilot project must 8 provide housing to 2 to 3 residents in each home and, with the assistance of community 9 volunteers, assist those residents in becoming active, contributing members of the 10 community. Housing provided under the pilot project must be staffed by a volunteer 11 12 resident companion who lives at the house rent-free and is employed outside of the house.

Sec. 2. Funding. Resolved: That the Department of Health and Human Services
may receive funds from any public or private source for the purposes for which the pilot
project under section 1 has been established.

16 Sec. 3. Report. Resolved: That, by December 1, 2021, the Department of Health 17 and Human Services shall submit a written report on the results of the pilot project under 18 section 1, including findings and recommendations, to the joint standing committee of the 19 Legislature having jurisdiction over health and human services matters. The joint 20 standing committee may submit a bill to the Second Regular Session of the 130th 21 Legislature relating to the subject matter of the report.

SUMMARY

23 This resolve establishes a 2-year pilot project to provide housing to adults with intellectual disabilities or autism spectrum disorder who are on the waiting list for home 24 and community-based benefits provided under the Department of Health and Human 25 Services rule Chapter 101: MaineCare Benefits Manual, Chapter II, Section 21. The pilot 26 project must be modeled on a program operated in the Town of Kittery by A House for 27 ME and must provide housing to 2 to 3 residents in each home and, with the assistance of 28 community volunteers, assist those residents in becoming active, contributing members of 29 the community. 30

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