MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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130th MAINE LEGISLATURE

FIRST REGULAR SESSION-2021

Legislative Document

No. 166

S.P. 68

In Senate, January 25, 2021

An Act To Allow Participants in the Qualified Medicare Beneficiary Program To Qualify for MaineCare Transportation Services

Received by the Secretary of the Senate on January 21, 2021. Referred to the Committee on Health and Human Services pursuant to Joint Rule 308.2 and ordered printed.

DAREK M. GRANT Secretary of the Senate

Presented by Senator POULIOT of Kennebec.

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

Sec. 1. 22 MRSA §3174-FFF is enacted to read:

§3174-FFF. Transportation services to qualified Medicare beneficiaries

Notwithstanding any provision of law to the contrary, an individual who is a qualified Medicare beneficiary under federal law is eligible to receive the same nonemergency transportation services that are provided to MaineCare members. The department may adopt rules to implement this section. Rules adopted pursuant to this section are routine technical rules as defined in Title 5, chapter 375, subchapter 2-A.

- Sec. 2. Department of Health and Human Services to seek approval from Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services. The Department of Health and Human Services shall submit any waivers or state plan amendments to the United States Department of Health and Human Services, Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services that are necessary to seek approval to reimburse MaineCare providers for providing nonemergency transportation services to qualified Medicare beneficiaries as required by the Maine Revised Statutes, Title 22, section 3174-FFF.
- **Sec. 3. Reimbursement using General Fund funds.** The Department of Health and Human Services shall reimburse MaineCare providers of nonemergency transportation services to qualified Medicare beneficiaries using General Fund funds if approval is not received from the United States Department of Health and Human Services, Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services pursuant to section 2.

21 SUMMARY

This bill extends nonemergency transportation services currently available to MaineCare members to qualified Medicare beneficiaries. The Department of Health and Human Services is required to submit to the United States Department of Health and Human Services, Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services any waivers or state plan amendments that are necessary for approval to provide these services. If approval is denied, the Department of Health and Human Services is required to reimburse MaineCare providers of nonemergency transportation services with General Fund funds.