

MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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Date: 3-29-22

(Filing No. H-874)

HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES

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STATE OF MAINE
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
130TH LEGISLATURE
SECOND REGULAR SESSION

COMMITTEE AMENDMENT "A" to H.P. 241, L.D. 343, "An Act To Set Aside Funds from Federal Block Grants for Certain Communities"

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

'Resolve, To Review Maternal and Child Health Block Grant Spending'

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

'Sec. 1. Commissioner of Health and Human Services to review Maternal and Child Health Block Grant spending. Resolved: That the Commissioner of Health and Human Services shall establish a partnership to review Department of Health and Human Services spending of funds received pursuant to the federal Maternal and Child Health Block Grant, referred to in this resolve as "the block grant." The partnership must be between representatives of tribal public health districts, representatives of the Permanent Commission on the Status of Racial, Indigenous and Tribal Populations established pursuant to the Maine Revised Statutes, Title 5, section 12004-J, subsection 19 and representatives of the department. The partnership shall review the following:

- 1. The total amount of block grant funds received by the State;
2. The entities and programs funded by the block grant;
3. The populations served by the entities and programs funded by the block grant;
4. The decision-making process the department uses to determine what entities and programs receive block grant funding and how much each receives;
5. The effects and outcomes in populations served by the entities and programs funded by the block grant;
6. How best to define "vulnerable populations" within the State; and
7. Existing gaps in funding of vulnerable populations by the block grant.

Sec. 2. Report to Legislature. Resolved: That, no later than February 1, 2023, the Commissioner of Health and Human Services shall submit a report, drafted by the

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1 partnership under section 1, regarding the review conducted pursuant to this resolve and
2 making recommendations, including recommendations for changes to policy and relating
3 to the award of block grant funds, recommendations for specific measures or reserving of
4 block grant funds for certain populations and recommendations for the establishment of a
5 permanent partnership to review federal block grants received by the Department of Health
6 and Human Services and including suggested legislation, to the joint standing committee
7 of the Legislature having jurisdiction over health and human services matters. The joint
8 standing committee may report out legislation on the subject matter of the report to the
9 131st Legislature in 2023.'

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

12 **SUMMARY**

13 This amendment replaces the bill with a resolve. It directs the Commissioner of Health
14 and Human Services to establish a process to review Department of Health and Human
15 Services spending of funds received pursuant to the federal Maternal and Child Health
16 Block Grant. The commissioner is required to establish a partnership to conduct this
17 review. The partnership is between representatives of tribal public health districts, the
18 Permanent Commission on the Status of Racial, Indigenous and Tribal Populations and the
19 department. The partnership is required to review the process of awarding block grant funds
20 and the outcomes in populations served by grant funds, with a focus on identifying
21 vulnerable populations and determining if these populations are appropriately served by
22 grant funds. The commissioner is required to submit a report, drafted by the partnership,
23 with recommendations, including recommendations for the establishment of a permanent
24 partnership to review federal block grants received by the department, to the joint standing
25 committee of the Legislature having jurisdiction over health and human services matters.
26 The joint standing committee may report out legislation on the subject matter of the report
27 to the 131st Legislature in 2023.

28 **FISCAL NOTE REQUIRED**

29 (See attached)



130th MAINE LEGISLATURE

LD 343

LR 1804(02)

An Act To Set Aside Funds from Federal Block Grants for Certain Communities

Fiscal Note for Bill as Amended by Committee Amendment *Am (H-874)*

Committee: Health and Human Services

Fiscal Note Required: Yes

Fiscal Note

Minor cost increase - General Fund

Fiscal Detail and Notes

Any additional costs to the Department of Health and Human Services to establish a process to review the Maternal and Child Health Services Block Grant and report back to the legislature are expected to be minor and can be absorbed within existing budgeted resources.