

MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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131st MAINE LEGISLATURE

FIRST REGULAR SESSION-2023

Legislative Document

No. 200

H.P. 124

House of Representatives, January 17, 2023

**An Act to Require Medicaid Coverage for Certain Children Under 7
Years of Age**

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

Robert B. Hunt
ROBERT B. HUNT
Clerk

Presented by Representative MADIGAN of Waterville.

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

2 **Sec. 1. 22 MRSA §3174-G, sub-§1, ¶G-1**, as amended by PL 2021, c. 519, §6, is
3 further amended by amending subparagraph (2) to read:

4 (2) A child under 21 years of age; ~~and~~

5 **Sec. 2. 22 MRSA §3174-G, sub-§1, ¶H**, as enacted by IB 2017, c. 1, Pt. A, §3, is
6 amended by amending the 3rd blocked paragraph to read:

7 The department shall adopt rules, including emergency rules pursuant to Title 5, section
8 8054 if necessary, to implement this paragraph in a timely manner to ensure that the
9 persons described in this paragraph are enrolled for and eligible to receive services no
10 later than 180 days after the effective date of this paragraph. Rules adopted pursuant
11 to this paragraph are routine technical rules as defined by Title 5, chapter 375,
12 subchapter 2-A; and

13 **Sec. 3. 22 MRSA §3174-G, sub-§1, ¶I** is enacted to read:

14 I. A child under 7 years of age, regardless of the child's family's nonfarm income
15 official poverty line, if the child is not covered by an employer-sponsored or private
16 health plan.

17 **Sec. 4. Federal Medicaid waivers or state plan amendments; funding.** The
18 Department of Health and Human Services shall establish coverage under the Maine
19 Revised Statutes, Title 22, section 3174-G, subsection 1, paragraph I using state funds. The
20 department may seek to acquire matching federal funds under the Medicaid program by
21 submitting to the United States Department of Health and Human Services, Centers for
22 Medicare and Medicaid Services any waivers or state plan amendments determined
23 necessary.

24 **SUMMARY**

25 This bill requires the Department of Health and Human Services to provide Medicaid
26 coverage to a child under 7 years of age, regardless of the child's family's nonfarm income
27 official poverty line, if the child is not covered by an employer-sponsored or private health
28 plan. It directs the department to seek any waivers and make amendments to the state
29 Medicaid plan as needed, but does not make coverage contingent on federal approval.