

# MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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Date 6/21/23

(Filing No H-685)

**HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES**

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**STATE OF MAINE  
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES  
131ST LEGISLATURE  
FIRST SPECIAL SESSION**

COMMITTEE AMENDMENT "A" to H P. 152, L D 231, "An Act to Support the  
Maine Pediatric and Behavioral Health Partnership Program"

Amend the bill by inserting after the title and before the enacting clause 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,** youth in Maine are experiencing increased behavioral and mental health  
challenges as evidenced by increased rates of depression, suicidal ideation and suicide  
attempts, and

**Whereas,** the Department of Health and Human Services, Office of Child and Family  
Services' 2022 annual report on children's behavioral health services acknowledged that  
service availability and accessibility are a significant issue, and

**Whereas,** programs featuring child psychiatry telehealth consultation services for  
primary care physicians support diagnosis, care coordination and medication management  
and have demonstrated increased access for child and adolescent populations to mental  
health services, and

**Whereas,** the United States Department of Health and Human Services, Health  
Resources and Services Administration funded the establishment of these programs in over  
50 states and territories to support child and adolescent mental health, and Maine's  
Department of Health and Human Services, along with private partners, developed the  
Maine Pediatric and Behavioral Health Partnership Program as the State's child psychiatry  
telehealth consultation service, and

**Whereas,** this legislation must take effect before the expiration of the 90-day period  
to timely address the expiration of funding for these programs, 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,'

**COMMITTEE AMENDMENT**

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1 Amend the bill by striking out everything after the enacting clause and inserting the  
2 following

3 **'Sec. 1. 34-B MRSA §15003, sub-§11** is enacted to read

4 **11. Statewide child psychiatry telehealth consultation service.** The department  
5 shall, to the extent funding allows, establish a statewide child psychiatry telehealth  
6 consultation service known as the Maine Pediatric and Behavioral Health Partnership  
7 Program, referred to in this subsection as "the program," to support primary care physicians  
8 who are treating children and adolescent patients and need assistance with diagnosis, care  
9 coordination, medication management and any other necessary behavioral health questions  
10 to serve their patients. The program must include the following

11 A Oversight by a team consisting of at least one primary care provider and one child  
12 and adolescent psychiatrist serving part-time as medical directors to provide assistance  
13 to primary care physicians with questions regarding behavioral health services when  
14 treating children and adolescents.

15 B Regional community teams that use all of the State's child and adolescent  
16 psychiatric and behavioral health resources and disseminate resources across the State  
17 to primary care physicians with child and adolescent patients.

18 C An advisory board of key stakeholders, appointed by the department The advisory  
19 board shall meet at least 4 times a year to assist the medical directors under paragraph  
20 A and continually review and evaluate the need for the program.

21 D Working agreements with other social service and educational agencies that support  
22 primary care physicians, and

23 E A system for the appropriate collection and sharing of data as required by the  
24 relevant state and federal laws, rules and regulations and as determined appropriate by  
25 the medical directors' team under paragraph A.

26 The department shall seek funding, including public and private grant funds and federal  
27 funds, to support the program

28 **Sec. 2. Funding; reports.** The Department of Health and Human Services shall  
29 report to the Joint Standing Committee on Health and Human Services no later than January  
30 31, 2024 on the funding sources and financial sustainability of the Maine Pediatric and  
31 Behavioral Health Partnership Program established pursuant to the Maine Revised Statutes,  
32 Title 34-B, section 15003, subsection 11 The committee is authorized to report out  
33 legislation related to the program to the Second Regular Session of the 131st Legislature

34 **Sec. 3. Appropriations and allocations.** The following appropriations and  
35 allocations are made.

36 **HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES, DEPARTMENT OF**  
37 **Mental Health Services - Children Z206**

38 Initiative Provides allocations to establish a statewide child psychiatry telehealth  
39 consultation service to support primary care physicians who are treating children and  
40 adolescent patients and need assistance with diagnosis, care coordination and medication  
41 management or other necessary behavioral health questions to serve their patients

|    |                                  |                |                |
|----|----------------------------------|----------------|----------------|
| 42 | <b>FEDERAL EXPENDITURES FUND</b> | <b>2023-24</b> | <b>2024-25</b> |
|----|----------------------------------|----------------|----------------|

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COMMITTEE AMENDMENT "A" to H P 152, L D 231

|   |                                 |                  |                  |
|---|---------------------------------|------------------|------------------|
| 1 | All Other                       | \$525,000        | \$700,000        |
| 2 |                                 |                  |                  |
| 3 | FEDERAL EXPENDITURES FUND TOTAL | <u>\$525,000</u> | <u>\$700,000</u> |

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

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

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**SUMMARY**

10 This amendment replaces the bill, which is a concept draft It provides in statute for  
11 the establishment by the Department of Health and Human Services of a currently existing  
12 statewide child psychiatry telehealth consultation service known as the Maine Pediatric and  
13 Behavioral Health Partnership Program to support primary care physicians who are treating  
14 children and adolescent patients and need assistance with diagnosis, care coordination and  
15 medication management or other necessary behavioral health questions to serve their  
16 patients The amendment requires the department to fund the program as necessary to  
17 supplement existing federal funds The current program was funded by the United States  
18 Department of Health and Human Services, Health Resources and Services Administration  
19 in 2018, and the funding is due to expire in 2023 The program provides clinical support  
20 to primary care physicians treating children and adolescents in need of behavioral health  
21 services The amendment requires the department to report to the Joint Standing  
22 Committee on Health and Human Services on the program's funding sources and financial  
23 sustainability no later than January 31, 2024

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**FISCAL NOTE REQUIRED**  
(See attached)

**COMMITTEE AMENDMENT**



# 131st MAINE LEGISLATURE

LD 231

LR 851(02)

## An Act to Support the Maine Pediatric and Behavioral Health Partnership Program

Fiscal Note for Bill as Amended by Committee Amendment "A" (H-685)  
 Committee: Health and Human Services

Fiscal Note Required: Yes

### Fiscal Note

|                                   | FY 2023-24 | FY 2024-25 | Projections<br>FY 2025-26 | Projections<br>FY 2026-27 |
|-----------------------------------|------------|------------|---------------------------|---------------------------|
| <b>Appropriations/Allocations</b> |            |            |                           |                           |
| Federal Expenditures Fund         | \$525,000  | \$700,000  | \$700,000                 | \$700,000                 |
| <b>Revenue</b>                    |            |            |                           |                           |
| Federal Expenditures Fund         | \$525,000  | \$700,000  | \$700,000                 | \$700,000                 |

#### Fiscal Detail and Notes

This bill includes Federal Expenditures Fund allocations to the Department of Health and Human Services of \$525,000 in fiscal year 2023-24 and \$700,000 in fiscal year 2024-25 to establish a statewide child psychiatry telehealth consultation service to support primary care physicians who are treating children and adolescent patients and need assistance with diagnosis, care coordination and medication management or other necessary behavioral health questions to serve their patients