

MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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131st MAINE LEGISLATURE

FIRST REGULAR SESSION-2023

Legislative Document

No. 587

S.P. 255

In Senate, February 14, 2023

**Resolve, to Automatically Increase a Residential Care or Nursing
Facility Resident's Personal Needs Allowance Under the MaineCare
Program When the Consumer Price Index Increases**

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

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "D M Grant".

DAREK M. GRANT
Secretary of the Senate

Presented by Senator BRAKEY of Androscoggin.
Cosponsored by Senator TIPPING of Penobscot and
Senator: MOORE of Washington.

Sec. 1. Personal needs allowance for residents of nursing facilities and residential care facilities. Resolved: That, by July 1, 2024, the Department of Health and Human Services shall amend its rules in Chapter 101: MaineCare Benefits Manual, Chapter III, Section 67, Principles of Reimbursement for Nursing Facilities, and Chapter III, Section 97, Private Non-Medical Institution Services, to apply an annual cost-of-living increase to the personal needs allowance for persons residing in nursing facilities and residential care facilities under the rules for the MaineCare program. The increase in the cost of living must be measured by the percentage increase, if any, as of August of the previous year over the level as of August of the year preceding that year in the Consumer Price Index for Urban Wage Earners and Clerical Workers, CPI-W, for the Northeast Region, or its successor index, as published by the United States Department of Labor, Bureau of Labor Statistics or its successor agency, with the amount of the personal needs allowance rounded to the nearest multiple of 5¢.

SUMMARY

This resolve requires the Department of Health and Human Services, by July 1, 2024, to amend its MaineCare rules to apply an annual cost-of-living increase to the personal needs allowance for MaineCare members residing in nursing facilities and residential care facilities. The cost-of-living increase applies the metrics used by the Consumer Price Index for Urban Wage Earners and Clerical Workers, CPI-W, for the Northeast Region.