

MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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131st MAINE LEGISLATURE

FIRST REGULAR SESSION-2023

Legislative Document

No. 904

H.P. 560

House of Representatives, February 28, 2023

An Act Supporting the Rural Health Care Workforce in Maine

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

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "R B. Hunt".

ROBERT B. HUNT
Clerk

Presented by Representative OSHER of Orono.
Cosponsored by Senator BALDACCI of Penobscot and
Representatives: CRAVEN of Lewiston, GRAHAM of North Yarmouth, PERRY of Calais,
SHAGOURY of Hallowell, Senators: BAILEY of York, BENNETT of Oxford, TIPPING of
Penobscot.

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

2 **Sec. 1. 22 MRSA §1728** is enacted to read:

3 **§1728. Maine Rural Health Care Education Workforce Fund**

4 **1. Fund established.** The Maine Rural Health Care Education Workforce Fund,
5 referred to in this chapter as "the fund," is established to support rural primary care and
6 health professions workforce development as a dedicated, nonlapsing account within the
7 department.

8 **2. Sources of fund.** The fund consists of amounts appropriated or allocated by the
9 State.

10 **3. Use of fund.** The department shall make distributions from the fund to support the
11 following purposes:

12 A. Expanding rural longitudinal primary care clinical rotations for 3rd-year medical
13 students to support long-term professional practice in the rural part of the State;

14 B. Expanding rural primary care clinical rotations for 4th-year medical students to
15 support long-term professional practice in the rural part of the State;

16 C. Expanding rural primary care clinical residency placements in the State; and

17 D. Supporting the long-term sustainability of rural clinical preceptorship programs to
18 provide support for students in undergraduate and graduate nursing programs.

19 **4. Rules.** The department may adopt rules to implement this section. Rules adopted
20 pursuant to this subsection are routine technical rules as defined in Title 5, chapter 375,
21 subchapter 2-A.

22 **Sec. 2. Appropriations and allocations.** The following appropriations and
23 allocations are made.

24 **HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES, DEPARTMENT OF**

25 **Maine Rural Health Care Education Workforce Fund N424**

26 Initiative: Provides funding for the Maine Rural Health Care Education Workforce Fund.

27 GENERAL FUND	2023-24	2024-25
28 All Other	\$500,000	\$500,000
29		
30 GENERAL FUND TOTAL	\$500,000	\$500,000

31 **SUMMARY**

32 This bill establishes the Maine Rural Health Care Education Workforce Fund to
33 support primary care and health professions workforce development in rural parts of the
34 State.