MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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131st MAINE LEGISLATURE

SECOND REGULAR SESSION-2024

Legislative Document

No. 2128

H.P. 1352

House of Representatives, January 3, 2024

An Act Regarding Nonemergency Transportation for MaineCare Members

(EMERGENCY)

Approved for introduction by a majority of the Legislative Council pursuant to Joint Rule 203.

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

ROBERT B. HUNT

Clerk

Presented by Representative MADIGAN of Waterville. Cosponsored by Representative: WHITE of Waterville.

Emergency preamble. Whereas, acts and resolves of the Legislature do not become effective until 90 days after adjournment unless enacted as emergencies; and

Whereas, this legislation must take effect before the expiration of the 90-day period in order to timely address the urgent transportation needs of MaineCare patients and their families; 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,

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

Sec. 1. 22 MRSA §3174-NNN is enacted to read:

§3174-NNN. MaineCare members' health care election regarding transportation

A MaineCare member using MaineCare-contracted nonemergency transportation services to travel to a MaineCare-reimbursable appointment may elect to have one adult accompany the MaineCare member while traveling.

Sec. 2. MaineCare members' health care election regarding transportation. The Department of Health and Human Services, pursuant to the Maine Revised Statutes, Title 22, section 3174-NNN, shall amend its rule Chapter 101: MaineCare Benefits Manual, Chapter II, Section 113, Non-Emergency Transportation (NET) Services to require MaineCare contracts with providers of nonemergency transportation to include provisions allowing one adult to accompany a MaineCare member to a MaineCare-reimbursable appointment.

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

25 SUMMARY

This bill provides that a MaineCare member using MaineCare-contracted nonemergency transportation services to travel to a MaineCare-reimbursable appointment may elect to have one adult accompany the MaineCare member while traveling. It directs the Department of Health and Human Services to amend its rules to require MaineCare contracts with providers of nonemergency transportation to include provisions allowing one adult to accompany a MaineCare member to a MaineCare-reimbursable appointment.