

# MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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# 131st MAINE LEGISLATURE

## SECOND REGULAR SESSION-2024

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Legislative Document

No. 2223

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S.P. 951

In Senate, February 21, 2024

**Resolve, to Direct the Department of Health and Human Services to Amend Rules and Establish a Study Group Related to Funding and Reimbursement for Mental Health Crisis Resolution Services**

(AFTER DEADLINE)

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Approved for introduction by a majority of the Legislative Council pursuant to Joint Rule 205.

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 STEWART of Aroostook.

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**Sec. 1. Crisis resolution services reimbursement. Resolved:** That the Department of Health and Human Services, referred to in this resolve as "the department," shall, by rulemaking, develop a reimbursement model for the crisis resolution services described in rule Chapter 101: MaineCare Benefits Manual, Chapter II, Section 65.05-1, Crisis Resolution Services, that is designed as an annual cost reimbursement model, not a per encounter basis model. The reimbursement model must be designed to fully cover the staffing and operational costs of any service provider covered under rule Chapter 101: MaineCare Benefits Manual, Chapter II, Section 65.05-1 to operate on a 24-hours-per-day, 7-days-per-week basis.

**Sec. 2. Crisis Resolution Services System Study Group; report. Resolved:** That the department shall establish the Crisis Resolution Services System Study Group to evaluate and recommend funding sources for existing and developing crisis resolution services as described in rule Chapter 101: MaineCare Benefits Manual, Chapter II, Section 65.05-1, Crisis Resolution Services. Funding sources must include any combination of Medicaid reimbursement, General Fund appropriations and grant funding. By January 15, 2025, the department shall submit a report of the study group's findings to the joint standing committee of the Legislature having jurisdiction over health and human services matters.

**SUMMARY**

This resolve directs the Department of Health and Human Services to, in its rules governing reimbursement for crisis resolution services, develop a reimbursement model for those services that is designed as an annual cost reimbursement model rather than a per encounter basis model. The reimbursement model must be designed to fully cover staffing and operational costs for crisis resolution services to operate 24 hours per day, 7 days per week. The services affected by this resolve are those services that are described by the MaineCare Benefits Manual as designed to offer immediate crisis-oriented services to an individual experiencing a crisis related to mental or behavioral health or social relationships or a crisis related to an intellectual disability, autism or related condition. Crisis resolution services also include services offered for co-occurring substance use conditions.

The resolve also directs the Department of Health and Human Services to establish the Crisis Resolution Services System Study Group to conduct a study to evaluate and recommend funding sources for crisis resolution services. The department must submit a report of the study group's findings to the joint standing committee of the Legislature having jurisdiction over health and human services matters by January 15, 2025.