

MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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132nd MAINE LEGISLATURE

SECOND REGULAR SESSION-2026

Legislative Document

No. 2154

H.P. 1443

House of Representatives, January 7, 2026

An Act to Establish the Health Information Technology Fund to Support a State-designated Statewide Health Information Exchange

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.

R. B. Hunt
ROBERT B. HUNT
Clerk

Presented by Representative GATTINE of Westbrook.

Cosponsored by Senator PIERCE of Cumberland and

Representatives: DUCHARME of Madison, MOONEN of Portland, ZAGER of Portland.

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

2 **Sec. 1. 22 MRSA §1730-B** is enacted to read:

3 **§1730-B. Health Information Technology Fund**

4 The Health Information Technology Fund, referred to in this section as "the fund," is
5 established within the department.

6 **1. Use of fund.** The fund must be used to support the operation and sustainability of
7 a state-designated statewide health information exchange operated in accordance with
8 section 1711-C, subsection 18 and to meet the State's matching fund requirements to obtain
9 federal funding to support the operation and sustainability of such an exchange. Funds
10 received pursuant to subsection 2 may be used only for purposes directly related to the
11 operation and sustainability of a state-designated statewide health information exchange.
12 The department shall administer the fund in a manner that maximizes eligibility for
13 available federal matching funds.

14 **2. Source of funds; separate account; interest; nonlapsing fund.** The fund is
15 administered by the department. The fund consists of money appropriated or allocated by
16 the Legislature, federal funds, grants, gifts and other funds from public or private sources.
17 The fund must be held separate and apart from all other money, funds and accounts.
18 Interest earned by the fund must be credited to the fund. Any unexpended balances
19 remaining in the fund at the end of the fiscal year do not lapse and must be carried forward
20 to the next fiscal year.

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

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

24 **Health Information Technology Fund N565**

25 Initiative: Provides ongoing funding to support the operations of a state-designated
26 statewide health information exchange and to meet the State's matching fund requirements
27 for available federal funding.

28 GENERAL FUND	2025-26	2026-27
29 All Other	\$0	\$1,800,000
30 GENERAL FUND TOTAL	<hr/>	<hr/>
31	\$0	\$1,800,000

32 **SUMMARY**

33 This bill establishes the Health Information Technology Fund within the Department
34 of Health and Human Services to support the operation and sustainability of a state-
35 designated statewide health information exchange and to meet the State's matching fund
36 requirements to obtain available federal funding for that purpose. The fund is nonlapsing
37 and consists of money appropriated or allocated by the Legislature, federal funds, grants,
38 gifts and other funds from public or private sources.

39 The bill includes an ongoing appropriation of \$1,800,000 annually in support of the
40 fund beginning in fiscal year 2026-27.