

MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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STATE OF MAINE
130TH LEGISLATURE
FIRST REGULAR AND FIRST SPECIAL SESSIONS



Disposition of bills and summaries of all laws enacted or finally passed

**JOINT STANDING COMMITTEE ON HEALTH AND
HUMAN SERVICES**

December 2021

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JOINT STANDING COMMITTEE ON HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES

LD 93 An Act To Improve Maine's Quality Rating System for Child Care Services

ENACTED LAW SUMMARY

Public Law 2021, chapter 138 removes language that required a four-step quality rating system for child care providers and instead allows the Department of Health and Human Services discretion in setting the appropriate number of steps, with a minimum of three steps required.

LD 98 An Act To Clarify Maine's Statutes Related to the Licensing of Child Care Providers

ENACTED LAW SUMMARY

Public Law 2021, chapter 35 makes various changes to the laws governing the licensure of child care providers by the Department of Health and Human Services in order to ensure consistency between provider types. Specifically, the law:

1. Provides clarity on the department's ability to levy civil penalties against those who violate statutes or licensing rules governing child care facilities;
2. Allows the department to regulate the quality of the program of child care that is provided by providers classified as family child care providers;
3. Allows the department to regulate the administration of medication by providers classified as family child care providers; and
4. Replaces all references to the certification of family child care providers with references to licensure.

LD 118 An Act To Address Maine's Shortage of Behavioral Health Services for Minors

ENACTED LAW SUMMARY

Public Law 2021, chapter 191 requires the Department of Health and Human Services to work with hospitals to develop a consistent and reliable system of data definitions and data collection to identify the number of children with behavioral needs who remain in hospital emergency rooms after they no longer need medical hospital level of care. It changes the requirements for annual reports on the children's mental health program that are submitted to the Legislature and includes data on the number of children served by crisis providers and the number of children who waited for the appropriate level of behavioral health treatment in a hospital emergency room for the preceding year. The annual report that is due on January 1, 2022, is required to include progress on developing standardized data. The requirement for monthly reports on the status of children's crisis services is removed.