

# MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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STATE OF MAINE  
130<sup>TH</sup> 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

**STAFF:**

ANNA BROOME, SR. LEGISLATIVE ANALYST  
ERIN DOOLING, LEGISLATIVE ANALYST  
OFFICE OF POLICY AND LEGAL ANALYSIS  
13 STATE HOUSE STATION  
AUGUSTA, ME 04333  
(207) 287-1670  
<http://legislature.maine.gov/opla/>

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\*Committee member for a portion of the session

## JOINT STANDING COMMITTEE ON HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES

### **LD 121 An Act To Require a Background Check for High-risk Health Care Providers under the MaineCare Program**

#### **ENACTED LAW SUMMARY**

Public Law 2021, chapter 400 requires MaineCare provider applicants who are high-risk providers or who are in high-risk provider categories to undergo criminal history background checks from the Maine Criminal Justice Information System and the Federal Bureau of Investigation as well as a fingerprint background check. “High-risk” in this context is determined in routine technical rules and the rules are to be adopted in consultation with the State Bureau of Identification. Providers are defined in federal regulations and the risk is for fraud, waste and abuse. The information is confidential and may only be used by the Department of Health and Human Services for official use.

### **LD 129 Resolve, To Protect Consumers of Public Drinking Water by Establishing Maximum Contaminant Levels for Certain Substances and Contaminants**

#### **ENACTED LAW SUMMARY**

Resolve 2021, chapter 82 requires certain actions to be taken in order to protect consumers of public drinking water in Maine from potential health impacts associated with perfluoroalkyl and polyfluoroalkyl substances known as PFAS. The resolve requires community water systems and schools and child care facilities regulated as nontransient, noncommunity water systems to conduct monitoring for perfluoroalkyl and polyfluoroalkyl substances. If the monitoring results detect the presence of perfluorooctanoic acid, perfluorooctane sulfonic acid, perfluorohexane sulfonic acid, perfluorononanoic acid, perfluoroheptanoic acid or perfluorodecanoic acid at a level in excess of an interim standard of 20 nanograms per liter, the water system is required to conduct additional monitoring. The resolve also directs the Department of Health and Human Services to undertake routine technical rulemaking to establish an enforceable maximum contaminant level for the five PFAS by June 1, 2024, which can include adoption of a federal maximum contaminant level if one is available and at least as restrictive as the interim standard. It requires the Department of Health and Human Services to report to the joint standing committee of the Legislature having jurisdiction over health and human services matters upon the adoption of final rules regulating perfluoroalkyl and polyfluoroalkyl substances and annually beginning January 1, 2022 until the rules are finally adopted. It also authorizes the committee to report out legislation related to each report.

Resolve 2021, chapter 82 was finally passed as an emergency measure effective June 21, 2021.