

MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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STATE OF MAINE
130TH LEGISLATURE
SECOND REGULAR SESSION



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

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

July 2022

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JOINT STANDING COMMITTEE ON HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES

LD 910 An Act To Amend the General Assistance Laws Governing Reimbursement

ENACTED LAW SUMMARY

Public Law 2021, chapter 734 provides for a one-time transfer of \$10,000,000 from the unappropriated surplus of the General Fund to the Department of Health and Human Services, General Assistance, Other Special Revenue Funds account. It requires the department to distribute the funds proportionally to each municipality and federally recognized Indian nation, tribe or band in the State based on the general assistance costs incurred by that municipality or federally recognized Indian nation, tribe or band in the State during fiscal year 2020-21. It provides that a municipality or federally recognized Indian nation, tribe or band in the State may use funds to offset potential reductions in federal funding in fiscal year 2022-23, potential reductions in funding related to the end of the public health emergency and other unanticipated costs incurred by the municipality or federally recognized Indian nation, tribe or band in the State during the COVID-19 pandemic. The department is required to distribute the funds as a lump-sum distribution to each municipality and federally recognized Indian nation, tribe or band in the State. The department is directed to review long-term improvements to the general assistance program. Public Law 2021, chapter 769 offsets the general fund from the Liquor Operation Revenue Fund.

LD 1080 Resolve, Directing the Department of Health and Human Services To Update the Rights of Recipients of Mental Health Services

ENACTED LAW SUMMARY

Resolve 2021, chapter 132 directs the Department of Health and Human Services to, by July 1, 2025, update the rules regarding the rights of recipients of mental health services pursuant to the Maine Revised Statutes, Title 34-B, sections 3003 and 15002. It designates these rules as major substantive.

It requires the department, by September 1, 2022, to submit to the Joint Standing Committee on Health and Human Services a work plan for developing and promulgating these rule changes and ensuring stakeholder engagement prior to the drafting of the rule changes. Stakeholders must include, but are not limited to, consumers of mental health services, advocates for consumers of mental health services, providers of mental health services and health care systems in the State.

Additionally, beginning January 1, 2023 and every six months thereafter until provisional rule changes are adopted under this section, the resolve requires the department to report to the joint standing committee of the Legislature having jurisdiction over health and human services matters on its progress toward compliance with this resolve.