

# 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

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\*Committee member for a portion of the session

## JOINT STANDING COMMITTEE ON HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES

### **LD 964 An Act To Expand Access to Certified Substance Use Disorder Recovery Residence Services**

#### **ENACTED LAW SUMMARY**

Public Law 2021, chapter 472 requires recovery residences to be certified according to the standards set by a nationally recognized organization that supports persons recovering from substance use disorder, as of July 1, 2022, in order to receive contracts from the Department of Health and Human Services, to receive housing vouchers provided through the Maine State Housing Authority or to receive municipal general assistance housing assistance from a person living in a recovery residence. A person residing in a recovery residence that is not certified may receive housing assistance in the general assistance program for one 30-day period and the overseer of the municipality is required to inform the person that the law requires certification of the recovery residence for housing assistance in the general assistance program. It includes an appropriation that increases a current contract to allow for the certification of the recovery residences.

Public Law 2021, chapter 472 also requires the Department of Health and Human Services to change its rules to establish appropriate maximum housing assistance levels for eligible persons residing in recovery residences that take into account the additional costs of providing recovery residences compared to other shared housing arrangements as well as the fair market rents established by the United States Department of Housing and Urban Development that are used to establish maximum housing assistance levels under the general assistance program.

### **LD 1009 Resolve, To Create the Working Group To Design Jail Resource Navigator Services for Maine County Jails**

#### **ENACTED LAW SUMMARY**

Resolve 2021, chapter 100 establishes the Working Group To Design Jail Resource Navigator Services for Maine County Jails to make recommendations about a design for county jail resource navigator services that will support all county jails in Maine with needed resources and services, including but not limited to health care, mental health care and substance use disorder treatment for persons who are incarcerated. The working group must also research federal, state or other funding to sustain these programs within an independent statewide nonprofit organization. The working group must, no later than January 15, 2023, submit a report to the Joint Standing Committee on Criminal Justice and Public Safety. That committee is authorized to report out legislation related to the report to the First Regular Session of the 131st Legislature.