

# MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

The following document is provided by the  
**LAW AND LEGISLATIVE DIGITAL LIBRARY**  
at the Maine State Law and Legislative Reference Library  
<http://legislature.maine.gov/lawlib>



Reproduced from electronic originals  
(may include minor formatting differences from printed original)

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/>

**MEMBERS:**

SEN. NED CLAXTON, CHAIR  
SEN. JOSEPH BALDACCI  
SEN. MARIANNE MOORE

REP. MICHELE MEYER, CHAIR  
REP. MARGARET CRAVEN  
REP. ANNE C. PERRY  
REP. COLLEEN M. MADIGAN  
REP. HOLLY B. STOVER  
REP. SAMUEL LEWIS ZAGER  
REP. KATHY IRENE JAVNER  
REP. ABIGAIL W. GRIFFIN  
REP. JONATHAN M. CONNOR  
REP. MICHAEL H. LEMELIN\*  
REP. GINA M. MELARAGNO\*

\*Committee member for a portion of the session

## JOINT STANDING COMMITTEE ON HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES

### **LD 1392 An Act Directing the Maine Center for Disease Control and Prevention To Release Annually Public Health Data Regarding Certain Fatalities and Hospitalizations**

#### **ENACTED LAW SUMMARY**

Public Law 2021, chapter 369 requires the Director of the Maine Center for Disease Control and Prevention within the Department of Health and Human Services to annually report on public health data concerning firearm fatalities separated by homicides, including the number of domestic violence homicides, suicides and unintentional discharges, further separated by the ages of the victims of each category, and hospitalizations that occurred as a result of a firearm that did not result in death and to make the report publicly available. It directs the Commissioner of Public Safety, the Office of Chief Medical Examiner, the Office of the Attorney General and the Maine Health Data Organization to assist the director with the required data collection. It also adds unintentional and intentional firearm discharges as a type of category of data contained in uniform crime reports required by the Department of Public Safety, State Bureau of Identification.

### **LD 1469 Resolve, To Provide Add-on Payments for Ambulance Services Reimbursed by the MaineCare Program and To Increase Reimbursement Rates for Physical Therapy under the MaineCare Program**

#### **ENACTED LAW SUMMARY**

Resolve 2021, chapter 118 requires the Department of Health and Human Services to amend rule Chapter 101: MaineCare Benefits Manual, Chapter III, Section 5 no later than October 1, 2021 to provide add-on payments for ambulance services that are based on the same geographic urban, rural and super rural zip codes that are used for Medicare ambulance reimbursement. It also requires the department to convene a work group to consider the feasibility and cost of implementing cost-based reimbursement for ambulance services provided under the MaineCare program.

Resolve 2021, chapter 118 also adjusts the reimbursement rates for physical therapy services under Department of Health and Human Services rule Chapter 101: MaineCare Benefits Manual, Chapter III, Section 85 to 57% of the federal Medicare reimbursement rate no later than October 1, 2021 as long as the rate is no lower than the rate in effect on January 1, 2021.

### **LD 1470 Resolve, Regarding Reimbursement for Providing Inpatient Care to Individuals with Acute Mental Health Care Needs**

#### **ENACTED LAW SUMMARY**

Resolve 2021, chapter 119 requires the Department of Health and Human Services to amend its rule Chapter 101: MaineCare Benefits Manual, Chapter III, Section 45.03 to provide reimbursement for patients discharged from Southern Maine Health Care's psychiatric inpatient

ENACTED LAW SUMMARIES

130<sup>TH</sup> FIRST REGULAR AND FIRST SPECIAL SESSIONS – 2021

Page 19 of 23

## JOINT STANDING COMMITTEE ON HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES

unit in the amount of \$10,166 per distinct discharge; the amended rule must be submitted to the United States Department of Health and Human Services, Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services in time for the increased rate of reimbursement to apply from October 1, 2021.

The resolve directs the Department of Health and Human Services to seek and apply for federal funds and funds from any other sources to pay the costs of providing psychiatric services to uninsured patients. It also directs the department to submit a report to the Joint Standing Committee on Health and Human Services regarding the progress the department has made in developing a reimbursement rate to provide inpatient psychiatric care under its rule Chapter 101: MaineCare Benefits Manual, Chapter III, Section 45.03. The committee is authorized to report out legislation related to the report to the Second Regular Session of the 130th Legislature.

### **LD 1490 An Act To Improve Home and Community-based Services for Adults with Intellectual Disabilities, Autism, Brain Injury and Other Related Conditions**

#### **ENACTED LAW SUMMARY**

Public Law 2021, chapter 321 makes the following changes to the Department of Health and Human Services' system of care for adults with intellectual disabilities, autism, brain injury and other related conditions.

1. It renames "system of care" the "system of services and support."
2. It requires the department to post quarterly reports on the department's publicly accessible website, for each home and community-based services waiver from the United States Department of Health and Human Services, Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services in which the State participates, data on how many persons were served, how many persons were on the waiting list for services, by prioritization category when applicable, and one or more indicators of the length of time that persons are on the waiting list.
3. It requires the commissioner to include in the development of the department's biennial plan for services to persons with intellectual disabilities and autism, the participation of persons with intellectual disabilities, autism, brain injury and other related conditions. Participation must reflect a diversity of ethnicity, race and gender.
4. It authorizes the Joint Standing Committee on Health and Human Services to introduce a bill in each session of the Legislature rather than biennially.