

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 1548 Resolve, To Alleviate the Disproportionate Impact of COVID-19 and Public Health Outcomes

ENACTED LAW SUMMARY

Resolve 2021, chapter 91 directs the Department of Health and Human Services to collaborate with the Permanent Commission on the Status of Racial, Indigenous and Maine Tribal Populations to determine the appropriate levels of funding needed by historically disadvantaged communities, including the federally recognized Indian tribes, nations and bands in the State, in order to build community-based infrastructure and achieve health equity and to determine the levels of federal funding allocated to the State in any federal law that provided stimulus funds due to the ongoing pandemic related to COVID-19 that are available to support historically disadvantaged communities. It requires the department to submit a report to the Joint Standing Committee on Health and Human Services no later than January 15, 2022 describing the findings of the department and the commission. The committee may submit legislation related to the report to the Second Regular Session of the 130th Legislature.

LD 1603 An Act To Implement the Recommendations of the Committee To Study the Feasibility of Creating Basic Income Security

ENACTED LAW SUMMARY

Public Law 2021, chapter 405 reestablishes the Committee to Study the Feasibility of Creating Basic Income Security to continue the work of the previous study committee. The legislation directs the study committee to examine and make recommendations about the feasibility and economic impact and poverty reduction effect of providing basic income security through a direct cash payment system and other programs designed to help individuals and families become more economically secure. The legislation authorizes the committee to seek funding contributions to fully fund the costs of the study including the hiring of an outside consultant to conduct a feasibility study or to provide the committee with additional staffing needs, if funding permits. It allows the committee to use the balances from the study authorized in Resolve 2019, chapter 82.

LD 1624 Resolve, To Create a Stakeholder Group To Identify the Needs of Long-term Care Family Caregivers

ENACTED LAW SUMMARY

Resolve 2021, chapter 50 requires the long-term care ombudsman program to establish a stakeholder group to consider and make recommendations for the implementation of an assessment measure for the needs of family caregivers providing long-term care services to family members, to establish a plan to improve referrals to services and to submit a report to the Joint Standing Committee on Health and Human Services no later than January 2, 2022. The committee is

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authorized to report out legislation to the Second Regular Session of the 130th Legislature related to the report.

Resolve 2021, chapter 50 was finally passed as an emergency measure effective June 11, 2021.

LD 1649 An Act To Make the Shared Living Program Accessible for Persons with Intellectual Disabilities or Autism

ENACTED LAW SUMMARY

Public Law 2021, chapter 187 broadens the use of the contingency fund under the Maine Revised Statutes, Title 34-B, section 5437 to include any adult with intellectual disabilities or autism who qualifies for services under Title 34-B, chapter 5. Previously, expenditures from the contingency fund were limited to persons living in particular settings.

LD 1653 Resolve, Regarding Legislative Review of Chapter 124: Emergency Medical Services Personnel Reporting Rule, a Late-filed Major Substantive Rule of the Department of Health and Human Services, Maine Center for Disease Control and Prevention

ENACTED LAW SUMMARY

Resolve 2021, chapter 51 authorizes the adoption of Chapter 124: Emergency Medical Services Personnel Reporting Rule, a major substantive rule of the Department of Health and Human Services, Maine Center for Disease Control and Prevention that was filed outside the legislative rule acceptance period.

Resolve 2021, chapter 51 was finally passed as an emergency measure effective June 11, 2021.

LD 1712 An Act To Support Children's Healthy Development and School Success

ENACTED LAW SUMMARY

Public Law 2021, chapter 457 accomplishes the following.

1. It establishes the Help Maine Grow System in the Department of Health and Human Services. The system is a comprehensive, statewide, coordinated system of early identification, referral and follow-up for children from prenatal care up to eight years of age and their families. The system ensures access to early periodic screening, diagnosis and treatment services and related services to promote healthy development and develop a coordinated system of screening, referral and services. The law establishes the position of coordinator of the system to work collaboratively across offices within the department, the Children's Cabinet, the Department of Education and other applicable departments. The department must submit annual reports to