

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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3. It requires the department to assist ASPIRE-TANF participants seeking to matriculate in postsecondary education through the Parents as Scholars Program with access to remedial services, financial assistance and the provision of ASPIRE-TANF services. Services must include reimbursement for tuition, fees and transcript costs. Hours spent preparing for matriculation are considered hours of participation in ASPIRE-TANF.
4. It creates parity between the Parents as Scholars Program and the Higher Opportunity for Pathways to Employment Program by making services and benefits equivalent between the programs and by requiring, for both programs, that study hours be counted for three hours for every one hour of classroom instruction and options for half-time study be made available.
5. It provides that a referral from the University of Maine System, the Maine Community College System, Jobs for Maine's Graduates, adult education programs and Department of Labor career centers must be considered an application for the Higher Opportunity for Pathways to Employment Program as long as the referral is submitted by a qualified person and on a form provided for this purpose and signed by the student.
6. It requires the Department of Health and Human Services, the Department of Labor, the Department of Education, the University of Maine System and the Maine Community College System to explore the feasibility of simplifying the application process for education programs, including ASPIRE-TANF, the Parents as Scholars Program, the Higher Opportunity for Pathways to Employment Program and the Competitive Skills Scholarship Program, to a single application.

LD 1758 An Act Regarding Access to Telehealth Behavioral Health Services during Public Health Emergencies

ENACTED LAW SUMMARY

Public Law 2021, chapter 637 provides that the Department of Health and Human Services may not require a licensed mental health facility or licensed substance use disorder treatment facility to obtain written informed consent from a client during a federal or state public health emergency. The licensed facility may instead obtain a client's consent verbally, electronically or in writing. It directs the Department of Health and Human Services to, no later than January 1, 2023, amend its rules to meet the requirements of the law.