

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

4. It provides that the contract to provide ombudsman services must include funds for the nonprofit organization to provide health insurance benefits for employees of the ombudsman program.
5. It provides that the ombudsman program must provide information about its services through a publicly accessible website and makes a technical correction regarding plural language.
6. It clarifies that the ombudsman program may provide opinions and recommendations on current or proposed state programs, rules, policies and laws.
7. It clarifies that the ombudsman program may provide input on the State's child welfare system to the Department of Health and Human Services and the joint standing committee of the Legislature having jurisdiction over health and human services matters.
8. It clarifies that the ombudsman program provides services to persons and families involved with the State's child welfare system.
9. It adds the child welfare ombudsman or the ombudsman's designee as a member of the child death and serious injury review panel established by the Department of Health and Human Services and requires that the panel, beginning January 1, 2023 and every two years thereafter, submit a report on the panel's recommendations to the joint standing committee of the Legislature having jurisdiction over health and human services matters.

Additional funding for the child welfare ombudsman program was included in Public Law 2021, chapter 635 (supplemental budget).

LD 1968 An Act To Ensure Appropriate Placement of Defendants with Mental Illness and Intellectual Disabilities

ENACTED LAW SUMMARY

Public Law 2021, chapter 757 requires an appropriate placement in an institution for the care and treatment of persons with mental illness within 30 days from the time the court transmits an order to the State Forensic Service committing a defendant to the custody of the Commissioner of Health and Human Services unless an extraordinary circumstance causes a necessary delay. The commissioner is required to notify the court of the extraordinary circumstance causing a delay.