

# MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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STATE OF MAINE  
132<sup>ND</sup> LEGISLATURE  
SECOND REGULAR SESSION



Disposition of bills and summaries of all laws enacted or finally passed

**JOINT STANDING COMMITTEE ON  
HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES**

May 2026

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## JOINT STANDING COMMITTEE ON HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES

include educating the public, supporting efforts for early detection and diagnosis, reducing cognitive decline and other negative outcomes and supporting care planning and management.

The law also creates the Healthy Brain Initiative Council as an advisory board composed of various stakeholders including, but not limited to, families affected by Alzheimer's disease or related dementias, medical professionals and medical facilities that treat individuals with Alzheimer's disease or related dementias, research and advocacy organizations and employees of the Office of Aging and Disability Services. The council is responsible for studying and developing findings and recommendations on a series of topics including, but not limited to, the occurrence of Alzheimer's disease or related dementias in this State, the treatment and care available and policies that address public awareness, prevention and early detection, treatment and care, safety concerns, legal concerns, research and assistance to families.

By January 20, 2027, the council must submit to the Governor and the Legislature a five-year plan outlining its recommendations to address the concerns the council is tasked with studying. The Maine Center for Disease Control and Prevention is required to issue annual updates on the progress of the plan's implementation and the council is required to issue an updated plan every five years.

Public Law 2025, chapter 507 was finally enacted in both the House and the Senate prior to the adjournment sine die of the First Special Session in 2025 but was not signed by the Governor. Pursuant to the Constitution of Maine, Public Law 2025, chapter 507 became law without the Governor's signature on January 11, 2026.

### **LD 1728 An Act to Improve Affordability, Stability and Access in the Maine Child Care Affordability Program**

Public Law 2025, chapter 587 makes the following changes to the Maine Child Care Affordability Program.

1. It establishes a cap on copayments for families receiving subsidies under the program. A family with income up to 85% of the median family income in the State may not be required to pay more than 7% of the family's household income. The Department of Health and Human Services may further reduce or waive copayments for additional populations, including families with income up to 30% of the median family income in the State, children in foster care or kinship care, families experiencing homelessness and families with a child with a disability. Copayment information must be posted on the department's publicly accessible website.
2. It requires the department to reimburse child care providers for subsidies based on enrollment rather than attendance. Payment practices must promote the financial stability of child care providers and continuity of care for children.
3. It allows the department to reimburse child care providers receiving a subsidy at a rate that is higher than the amount charged for a child in a family that is not receiving a subsidy.