

# 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**

**LD 1738 An Act to Establish the Biohazard Waste Disposal Grant Program to Support Public Health Efforts in the State**

Public Law 2025, chapter 509 establishes the Biohazard Waste Disposal Grant Program within the Department of Health and Human Services, Maine Center for Disease Control and Prevention. The purpose of the program is to disseminate grant funds to community organizations seeking to develop or enhance community hypodermic apparatus mitigation and disposal efforts. The center is required to establish grant guidelines and selection requirements and to submit an annual report to the Legislature.

The law also requires a municipality that receives opioid settlement funds to contribute matching funds from its opioid settlement allocation and to provide documentation attesting to those matching funds.

Public Law 2025, chapter 509 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 509 became law without the Governor's signature on January 11, 2026.

**LD 1745 An Act to Stabilize Residential Treatment Capacity for Children and Youth in Maine**

Public Law 2025, chapter 522 adds the following requirements to the laws governing children's residential care services.

1. It requires the Department of Health and Human Services to notify the joint standing committee of the Legislature having jurisdiction over health and human services matters whenever a children's residential care facility closes. The notification, which must be made within two weeks of closure, must include the name of the facility, the services provided, the number of beds and employees and the reasons for closure.
2. It adds requirements to the annual report on children's behavioral health services from the Department of Health and Human Services related to children in hospital emergency departments after they are cleared for discharge, out-of-state residential services and the cost of those services, lengths of stays in residential treatment facilities and denials of services.
3. It requires the department to convene a stakeholder group to identify the short-term and long-term staffing and resources needs to ensure the sustainability of child residential treatment providers. The report is due to the joint standing committee of the Legislature having jurisdiction over health and human services matters no later than December 3, 2025.
4. It requires the department to engage in outreach to providers of children's residential services, inpatient psychiatric services and community-based services to counsel those providers on resource needs to prevent closures and encourage the reopening of beds.