

MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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STATE OF MAINE
132ND 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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REP. ANN FREDERICKS*

STAFF:

SAMUEL SENFT, LEGISLATIVE ANALYST
ANNA BROOME, PRINCIPAL ANALYST
OFFICE OF POLICY AND LEGAL ANALYSIS
13 STATE HOUSE STATION
AUGUSTA, ME 04333
(207) 287-1670
<http://legislature.maine.gov/opla>

*Committee member for a portion of the session

**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.

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5. It requires the department to submit a report to the joint standing committee of the Legislature having jurisdiction over health and human services matters, no later than December 3, 2025, with data and policy efforts related to children's behavioral health services.

Public Law 2025, chapter 522 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 522 became law without the Governor's signature, and as an emergency measure, effective January 11, 2026.

Public Law 2025, chapter 522 was subsequently amended by Public Law 2025, chapter 757 to change the dates for the two required reports from December 3, 2025 to January 15, 2027.

LD 1746 An Act to Reduce Dental Disease and Ensure Access to Essential Preventive Dental Care Among Maine Children

Public Law 2025, chapter 723 makes the following changes to the laws governing programming related to children's oral health.

1. It delays the requirement for oral health services to be available in all schools from January 1, 2025 to January 1, 2027 and clarifies that the requirement applies only to public schools.
2. It requires the Department of Health and Human Services to develop public-private partnerships to establish a model to provide for mobile dental services providers to provide additional preventive oral health and disease intervention services in schools based on the model in the Cumberland County School Oral Health Project. It requires the department to provide for at least one mobile dental services provider in each public health district per school year.
3. It requires the Department of Health and Human Services to provide training and education by licensed dental health professionals to primary care providers on minimally invasive dental disease treatment for infants and small children using guidance from the From the First Tooth program or its successor program and the American Academy of Pediatrics. Pediatricians are encouraged to use silver diamine fluoride in primary care settings to reduce dental disease and prevent cavities.
4. It makes permanent two previously-established, limited-period positions related to the provision of oral health services in public schools within the Department of Health and Human Services, Maine Center for Disease Control and Prevention.

LD 1772 An Act to Establish the Fund for a Healthy Maine Stabilization Fund

Public Law 2025, chapter 641 establishes the Fund for a Healthy Maine Stabilization Fund as a subaccount of the Fund for a Healthy Maine. It requires the State Controller to credit to the stabilization fund all nonparticipating manufacturer adjustments disputed for 2026 and 2027, 10%