

First Regular Session--131st Maine Legislature

Maine Hospital Association Legislative Report

3/23/2023

LD 12 An Act to Amend the Laws Governing Severance Pay to Cover More Types of Employers and Include More Workers

Sponsor: Rep. Roeder <https://legislature.maine.gov/LawMakerWeb/summary.asp?ID=280085115>

Labor & Housing

Committee Status: DIV RPT

Public Hearing: 2/7/2023 1:00 PM

Final Status:

Current law regarding employee severance pay due to the closing, substantial shutdown or relocation of a covered establishment applies only to industrial and commercial facilities. This bill removes that limitation, making the law applicable to sectors that are not within the industrial or commercial category. It also removes the exclusion from eligibility for severance pay of employees who have not been employed by the employer for at least 3 years.

LD 18 An Act to Provide Ongoing Funding for up to 2 Years of Community College for Certain Maine Students

Sponsor: Rep. Bridgeo <https://legislature.maine.gov/LawMakerWeb/summary.asp?ID=280085128>

Education & Cultural Affairs

Committee Status:

Public Hearing:

Final Status:

This bill provides ongoing funding for high school graduates and individuals who obtain the equivalent of a high school diploma to receive a waiver of tuition and fees for up to 2 years in the Maine Community College System.

LD 35 An Act to Establish Adult Protective Services Training Requirements for Professionals Mandated to Report Suspected Abuse, Neglect or Exploitation to Enhance Protection of Incapacitated and Dependent Adults

Sponsor: Sen. Moore <https://legislature.maine.gov/LawMakerWeb/summary.asp?ID=280085084>

Health & Human Services

Committee Status:

Public Hearing: 3/15/2023 1:00 PM

Final Status:

This bill requires professionals mandated to make reports of abuse, neglect and exploitation of incapacitated and dependent adults pursuant to the Adult Protective Services Act to complete training on mandated reporter responsibilities once every 4 years.

LD 51 An Act to Restore Religious and Philosophical Exemptions to Immunization Requirements

Sponsor: Rep. Drinkwater <https://legislature.maine.gov/LawMakerWeb/summary.asp?ID=280085175>

Education & Cultural Affairs

Committee Status:

Public Hearing: 4/3/2023 10:00 AM

Final Status:

Public Law 2019, chapter 154 removed the exemption from immunization requirements based on religious or philosophical beliefs for students in elementary, secondary and postsecondary schools and employees of nursery schools and certain health care facilities. This bill reinstates the religious and philosophical exemptions.



LD 53 An Act to Ensure Accountability for Workplace Harassment and Assault by Removing Intentional Acts and Omissions from Workers' Compensation Exemptions

Sponsor: Rep. Lee <https://legislature.maine.gov/LawMakerWeb/summary.asp?ID=280085177>

Labor & Housing

Committee Status:

Public Hearing: 2/16/2023 1:00 PM

Final Status:

This bill removes intentional acts and omissions from the exemptions from civil action related to damages sustained by an employee when an employer has secured payment of workers' compensation.

LD 59 An Act to Prohibit Inclusion of the COVID-19 Vaccine in the Universal Childhood Immunization Program

Sponsor: Rep. Underwood <https://legislature.maine.gov/LawMakerWeb/summary.asp?ID=280085183>

Health & Human Services

Committee Status:

Public Hearing:

Final Status:

This bill prohibits the inclusion of any vaccine for COVID-19 on the list of vaccines available through the Universal Childhood Immunization Program.

LD 82 An Act to Improve Access to Children's Behavioral Health Services

Sponsor: Rep. Meyer <https://legislature.maine.gov/LawMakerWeb/summary.asp?ID=280085216>

Health & Human Services

Committee Status:

Public Hearing:

Final Status:

This bill removes the requirement that service providers contracted by the Department of Health and Human Services charge fees for services for children with mental health needs, intellectual disabilities or autism and their families.

LD 94 An Act Regarding the Use of Medical Cannabis by Minors

Sponsor: Rep. Riseman <https://legislature.maine.gov/LawMakerWeb/summary.asp?ID=280085237>

Veteran's and Legal Affairs

Committee Status:

Public Hearing:

Final Status:

This concept draft proposes to require approval from a minor's primary care provider before that minor may use medical cannabis.

LD 97 An Act to Repeal the Hospital and Health Care Provider Cooperation Act

Sponsor: Rep. Perry <https://legislature.maine.gov/LawMakerWeb/summary.asp?ID=280085265>

Health Coverage, Insurance and Financial Services

Committee Status: DIV RPT

Public Hearing: 1/31/2023 1:00 PM

Final Status:

This bill repeals the Hospital and Health Care Provider Cooperation Act.

LD 99 An Act to Clarify the Allowable Temperature Range in Certain Long-term Care Facilities

Sponsor: Rep. Dodge <https://legislature.maine.gov/LawMakerWeb/summary.asp?ID=280085271>

Health & Human Services

Committee Status: ONTP

Public Hearing: 2/7/2023 1:00 PM

Final Status:

This bill requires certain long-term care facilities to maintain a temperature of not less than 71 degrees Fahrenheit and not more than 81 degrees Fahrenheit.



LD 104 An Act to Make It a Crime Not to Report a Death

Sponsor: *Rep. Babin* <https://legislature.maine.gov/LawMakerWeb/summary.asp?ID=280085266>

Criminal Justice & Public Safety

Committee Status: TABLED

Public Hearing: 3/6/2023 10:00 AM

Final Status:

This concept draft would make it a crime not to report a death.

LD 116 An Act to Establish a Minimum Wage for All Health Care Workers Including All Support Staff

Sponsor: *Sen. Baldacci* <https://legislature.maine.gov/LawMakerWeb/summary.asp?ID=280085249>

Labor & Housing

Committee Status:

Public Hearing: 2/14/2023 1:00 PM

Final Status:

This bill provides that, beginning January 1, 2024, the minimum wage for individuals employed by or who work in a health care facility is \$15.00 per hour.

LD 129 Resolve, to Direct the University of Maine System to Study the Feasibility of Establishing a Public Allopathic Medical School in Penobscot County

Sponsor: *Sen. Baldacci* <https://legislature.maine.gov/LawMakerWeb/summary.asp?ID=280085291>

Education & Cultural Affairs

Committee Status:

Public Hearing: 2/2/2023 1:00 PM

Final Status:

This resolve directs the University of Maine System to conduct a study to evaluate the feasibility of establishing a public allopathic medical school in Penobscot County. The University of Maine System is required to submit a report based on its evaluation by December 6, 2023 to the Education Committee, which may report out legislation

LD 132 An Act to Require Health Insurance Carriers to Provide Coverage for Blood Testing for Perfluoroalkyl and Polyfluoroalkyl Substances

Sponsor: *Sen. Brenner* <https://legislature.maine.gov/LawMakerWeb/summary.asp?ID=280085294>

Health Coverage, Insurance and Financial Services

Committee Status:

Public Hearing: 3/28/2023 1:00 PM

Final Status:

This bill requires carriers offering health plans in this State to provide coverage for blood testing for perfluoroalkyl and polyfluoroalkyl substances. The requirements of the bill apply to health plans issued or renewed on or after January 1, 2024.

LD 139 An Act to Increase the Liability of Parents and Legal Guardians for Damage by Children

Sponsor: *Rep. Rudnicki* <https://legislature.maine.gov/LawMakerWeb/summary.asp?ID=280085308>

Judiciary

Committee Status:

Public Hearing: 1/26/2023 1:00 PM

Final Status:

This bill amends the current law setting the maximum amount of damages for which the parents or legal guardians of a minor who is 7 years of age or older and under 18 years of age may be liable for willful or malicious acts of that minor that cause damage to property or injury to a person by changing the maximum possible amount of damages from \$800 to \$6,000.



LD 158 An Act to Create a Training License and Program for Certain Advanced Practice Providers

Sponsor: *Rep. Moriarty* <https://legislature.maine.gov/LawMakerWeb/summary.asp?ID=280085334>

Health Coverage, Insurance and Financial Services **Committee Status:**
Public Hearing: **Final Status:**

This concept draft would allow hospitals to offer a training license and training program for physician assistants and nurse practitioners.

LD 160 An Act to Amend the Laws Governing Practicing Chiropractic Without a License

Sponsor: *Rep. Libby* <https://legislature.maine.gov/LawMakerWeb/summary.asp?ID=280085374>

Health Coverage, Insurance and Financial Services **Committee Status:** DIV RPT
Public Hearing: 2/9/2023 1:00 PM **Final Status:**

This bill amends the laws governing practicing chiropractic without a license to include a prohibition on an individual using the title "chiropractic physician" without having complied with the provisions of law relating to the licensing of the practice of chiropractic.

LD 162 An Act to Establish a Substance Use Disorder Hotline and Consultation and Clinical Supervision Program

Sponsor: *Rep. Madigan* <https://legislature.maine.gov/LawMakerWeb/summary.asp?ID=280085378>

Health & Human Services **Committee Status:**
Public Hearing: 4/3/2023 10:00 AM **Final Status:**

This bill directs DHHS to establish a substance use disorder hotline staffed by volunteers and offering on-call assistance to health care providers seeking guidance in the treatment of patients with substance use disorder. It also directs the department to establish a consultation and clinical supervision program offering ongoing consultation and clinical supervision services to health care providers who provide care to patients with substance use disorder. It directs the department to engage the services of health care providers with expertise in the treatment of patients with substance use disorder. It provides that the department may accept federal funds and grants to implement the hotline and the program and directs the department to adopt routine technical rules.

LD 172 An Act to Allow Health Care Workers to Return to Work by Reinstating Exemptions from Immunization Requirements

Sponsor: *Rep. Boyer* <https://legislature.maine.gov/LawMakerWeb/summary.asp?ID=280085373>

Health & Human Services **Committee Status:**
Public Hearing: **Final Status:**

This bill reinstates the religious and philosophical exemptions from immunization requirements for health care workers.

LD 176 An Act to Increase the Safety of Patients and Staff at the Dorothea Dix Psychiatric Center and the Riverview Psychiatric Center

Sponsor: *Rep. Madigan* <https://legislature.maine.gov/LawMakerWeb/summary.asp?ID=280085381>

Health & Human Services **Committee Status:**
Public Hearing: **Final Status:**

This bill requires the Department of Health and Human Services to establish and maintain certain staffing levels at the Riverview Psychiatric Center and the Dorothea Dix Psychiatric Center and to update and maintain certain technology at the psychiatric centers. It requires the department to report annually to the joint standing committee of the Legislature having jurisdiction over health and human services matters regarding injuries of staff and residents of the psychiatric centers.



LD 181 Resolve, Directing the Department of Health and Human Services to Implement Secure Children's Psychiatric Residential Treatment Facility Services

Sponsor: *Sen. Black* <https://legislature.maine.gov/LawMakerWeb/summary.asp?ID=280085354>

Health & Human Services **Committee Status:**
Public Hearing: 3/21/2023 1:00 PM **Final Status:**

This resolve requires, by January 1, 2024, the Department of Health and Human Services to implement secure children's psychiatric residential treatment facility services in the State. The delivery model must provide secure behavioral health and intellectual and developmental disabilities psychiatric residential treatment facility services. The department must submit a progress report to the Joint Standing Committee on Health and Human Services by September 29, 2023.

LD 190 An Act to Develop a Long-term Plan to Address Mental Health Needs in Rural Maine

Sponsor: *Sen. Stewart* <https://legislature.maine.gov/LawMakerWeb/summary.asp?ID=280085363>

Health & Human Services **Committee Status:**
Public Hearing: **Final Status:**

This is a concept draft.

LD 196 An Act to Implement the Recommendations of the Probate and Trust Law Advisory Commission for Amending the Maine Uniform Probate Code and Related Provisions of Law

Sponsor: <https://legislature.maine.gov/LawMakerWeb/summary.asp?ID=280085407>

Judiciary **Committee Status:** OTPA
Public Hearing: 1/31/2023 1:00 PM **Final Status:**

Section 12 is the portion of this legislation of interest to hospitals. As amended, it would reinstate online access to guardianship records in the Probate Courts. Online access would be restored until April, 2025. The Committee also agreed to send a letter to the Probate and Trust Law Advisory Commission asking it to explore whether certain categories of groups – like hospitals, banks, the Attorney General's Office, should have access to the records once they go confidential in 2025.

LD 199 An Act to Improve the Health of Maine Residents by Removing Exclusions to the MaineCare Program

Sponsor: *Speaker Talbot* <https://legislature.maine.gov/LawMakerWeb/summary.asp?ID=280085410>

Health & Human Services **Committee Status:**
Public Hearing: 3/28/2023 2:00 PM **Final Status:**

This bill provides MaineCare program coverage for noncitizen residents of this State 21 years of age or older with qualifying low incomes who are ineligible for coverage under the federal Medicaid program due to their immigration status.

LD 200 An Act to Require Medicaid Coverage for Certain Children Under 7 Years of Age

Sponsor: *Rep. Madigan* <https://legislature.maine.gov/LawMakerWeb/summary.asp?ID=280085411>

Health & Human Services **Committee Status:**
Public Hearing: 3/17/2023 10:00 AM **Final Status:**

This bill requires the Department of Health and Human Services to provide Medicaid coverage to a child under 7 years of age, regardless of the child's family's nonfarm income official poverty line, if the child is not covered by an employer-sponsored or private health plan. It directs the department to seek any waivers and make amendments to the state Medicaid plan as needed, but does not make coverage contingent on federal approval.



LD 206 An Act to Make Supplemental Appropriations and Allocations from the General Fund and Other Funds for the Expenditures of State Government and to Change Certain Provisions of the Law Necessary to the Proper Operations of State Government for the Fiscal Year Ending June 30, 2023

Sponsor: Rep. Sachs <https://legislature.maine.gov/LawMakerWeb/summary.asp?ID=280085418>

Appropriations & Financial Affairs

Committee Status:

Public Hearing:

Final Status:

Supplemental Budget Vehicle

LD 208 An Act Concerning Home Care Services

Sponsor: Rep. Craven <https://legislature.maine.gov/LawMakerWeb/summary.asp?ID=280085426>

Health & Human Services

Committee Status:

Public Hearing:

Final Status:

This bill requires the Department of Health and Human Services to establish a waiting list of individuals eligible for home care services under Section 19, Home and Community Benefits for the Elderly and Adults with Disabilities, and Section 96, Private Duty Nursing and Personal Care Services, and to publish certain information about the waiting list on its publicly accessible website. It requires the department to submit an annual report to the HHS Committee relating to the waiting list. The bill requires the department to contract with a 3rd-party entity to conduct assessments for children who have not attained 21 years of age who the department determines are eligible for private duty nursing and personal care services provided in a residential setting or other setting where normal life activities take place.

LD 223 Resolve, Directing the Department of Health and Human Services to Amend Its Rules Regarding Pharmacy Services

Sponsor: Rep. Zager <https://legislature.maine.gov/LawMakerWeb/summary.asp?ID=280085444>

Health & Human Services

Committee Status: OTPA

Public Hearing: 2/15/2023 9:30 AM

Final Status:

This resolve allows a pharmacist licensed under chapter 117 of Title 32 to be reimbursed for providing medication evaluation or consultation to a MaineCare member via telehealth or in a home visit when technology is not the most effective mode of consultation for services. It directs the Department of Health and Human Services to amend its MaineCare rules under Sections 19, 40 and 96 and Section 63 accordingly.

LD 224 An Act to Strengthen Maine's Health Care Workforce by Preventing Discrimination by Requiring Maintenance of Certification for Insurance Reimbursement

Sponsor: Rep. Zager <https://legislature.maine.gov/LawMakerWeb/summary.asp?ID=280085447>

Health Coverage, Insurance and Financial Services

Committee Status: DIV RPT

Public Hearing: 2/9/2023 1:00 PM

Final Status:

This bill prohibits carriers from conditioning reimbursement, provider network or empanelment status for a physician, hospital or outpatient clinical practice on a physician's, hospital's or outpatient clinical practice's participation in a maintenance of certification program.



Maine Hospital Association

Maine Hospital Association
33 Fuller Road, Augusta, Maine 04330
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LD 225 An Act to Expand the Reimbursement to Hospitals for Days Awaiting Placement in Facilities

Sponsor: *Rep. Perry* <https://legislature.maine.gov/LawMakerWeb/summary.asp?ID=280085450>

Health & Human Services

Committee Status: OTP

Public Hearing: 2/16/2023 1:00 PM

Final Status:

Current law requires the Department of Health and Human Services to provide reimbursement to hospitals other than critical access hospitals for each day after the 10th day that a MaineCare-eligible individual is in the care of a hospital while awaiting placement in a nursing facility. This bill provides that the department also is required to provide reimbursement to hospitals other than critical access hospitals for each day after the 10th day that a MaineCare-eligible individual is in the care of a hospital while awaiting placement in a residential care facility. The bill removes the provision that repeals the current law on December 31, 2023. (Note: MHA Bill)

LD 227 An Act Regarding Health Care in the State

Sponsor: *Rep. Perry* <https://legislature.maine.gov/LawMakerWeb/summary.asp?ID=280085433>

Health Coverage & Financial Services

Committee Status:

Public Hearing:

Final Status:

Concept draft – no content.

LD 228 An Act to Require Substance Use Disorder to Be Disclosed as a Cause of Death on Death Certificates

Sponsor: *Rep. Madigan* <https://legislature.maine.gov/LawMakerWeb/summary.asp?ID=280085437>

Health & Human Services

Committee Status:

Public Hearing: 2/15/2023 9:30 AM

Final Status:

This bill requires that if substance use disorder is a factor in the cause or the proximate cause in the death of a person, the death certificate must include substance use disorder as a factor in the cause or proximate cause of the death and identify the substance underlying the disorder.

LD 231 An Act to Support the Maine Pediatric and Behavioral Health Partnership Program

Sponsor: *Rep. Shagoury* <https://legislature.maine.gov/LawMakerWeb/summary.asp?ID=280085446>

Health & Human Services

Committee Status:

Public Hearing:

Final Status:

Concept draft – no content.

LD 242 An Act to Clarify That Animal Health Products Are Exempt from the Perfluoroalkyl and Polyfluoroalkyl Substances Reporting Law

Sponsor: *Sen. Baldacci* <https://legislature.maine.gov/LawMakerWeb/summary.asp?ID=280085453>

Environment & Natural Resources

Committee Status:

Public Hearing: 2/15/2023 10:00 AM

Final Status:

This bill provides that certain health products intended for animals that are regulated under the Federal Food, Drug, and Cosmetic Act, the federal Virus-Serum Toxin Act or the Federal Insecticide, Fungicide, and Rodenticide Act are exempt from the notification requirements that generally apply to products containing perfluoroalkyl and polyfluoroalkyl substances.



LD 244 Resolve, Directing Maine Emergency Medical Services to Convene a Stakeholder Group to Explore Emergency Medical Services Career Pathways and Educational Opportunities in the State

Sponsor: *Sen. Curry* <https://legislature.maine.gov/LawMakerWeb/summary.asp?ID=280085455>

Criminal Justice & Public Safety

Committee Status: DIV RPT

Public Hearing: 2/15/2023 10:00 AM

Final Status:

This resolve directs the Department of Public Safety, Maine Emergency Medical Services to convene a stakeholder group to explore career pathways and educational opportunities for emergency medical services providers in the State and to submit a report to the Legislature. Stakeholders include the Maine Community College System and the University of Maine System.

LD 251 Resolve, to Classify Employee Health Insurance as a Fixed Cost for MaineCare Reimbursement in Nursing Facilities

Sponsor: *Sen. Timberlake* <https://legislature.maine.gov/LawMakerWeb/summary.asp?ID=280085462>

Health & Human Services

Committee Status:

Public Hearing: 2/7/2023 1:00 PM

Final Status:

This resolve requires the Department of Health and Human Services to amend its rule Chapter 101: MaineCare Benefits Manual, Chapter III, Section 67, Principles of Reimbursement for Nursing Facilities, no later than January 1, 2024 to move health insurance costs for personnel from direct care and routine cost components to fixed costs components.

LD 252 An Act Relating to Long-term Care Pharmacies

Sponsor: *Sen. Vitelli* <https://legislature.maine.gov/LawMakerWeb/summary.asp?ID=280085463>

Health Coverage, Insurance & Financial Services

Committee Status: ONTP

Public Hearing: 2/9/2023 1:00 PM

Final Status:

This bill creates a new category of pharmacy facility licensure for long-term care pharmacies. It defines terms regarding long-term care pharmacies for the Maine Pharmacy Act to mirror a proposed federal law. It increases the number of individuals on the Maine Board of Pharmacy from 7 to 8 members and requires that the additional member be a pharmacist working at a long-term care pharmacy at the time of appointment. It provides that a drug or pharmaceutical preparation may only be accepted back by a pharmacy to be dispensed again if the drug or preparation is packaged in an unbroken, sealed container.

LD 258 An Act Making Unified Appropriations and Allocations from the General Fund and Other Funds for the Expenditures of State Government and Changing Certain Provisions of the Law Necessary to the Proper Operations of State Government for the Fiscal Years Ending June 30, 2023, June 30, 2024 and June 30, 2025

Sponsor: *Rep. Sachs* <https://legislature.maine.gov/LawMakerWeb/summary.asp?ID=280085493>

Appropriations and Financial Affairs

Committee Status:

Public Hearing:

Final Status:

Biennial Budget

LD 263 An Act to Ensure Access to Health Care

Sponsor: *Rep. Sachs* <https://legislature.maine.gov/LawMakerWeb/summary.asp?ID=280085548>

Health Coverage, Insurance & Financial Services

Committee Status:

Public Hearing:

Final Status:

This concept draft has no content but the summary indicates the bill is intended to ensure that access to health care services, including, but not limited to, screenings and treatments, are not diminished during or because of health care mergers and acquisitions.



LD 275 Resolve, to Require the Maine Board of Pharmacy to Review Work Practices and Treatment of Pharmacists

Sponsor: Rep. O'Connell <https://legislature.maine.gov/LawMakerWeb/summary.asp?paper=HP0173&SessionID=15>

Health Coverage, Insurance & Financial Services **Committee Status:** DIV RPT
Public Hearing: 2/16/2023 1:00 PM **Final Status:**

This resolve directs the Maine Board of Pharmacy to conduct a study to review the work practices and treatment of pharmacists, including, but not limited to, treatment by employers. The board is required to submit a report based on its study by December 6, 2023 to the Insurance Committee.

LD 278 An Act to Require Health Plans to Cover an Annual Mental Health Wellness Examination

Sponsor: Rep. Osher <https://legislature.maine.gov/LawMakerWeb/summary.asp?paper=HP0176&SessionID=15>

Health Coverage, Insurance & Financial Services **Committee Status:**
Public Hearing: 2/16/2023 1:00 PM **Final Status:**

The bill provides that health plans must provide coverage for an annual mental health wellness examination. The requirements apply beginning on January 1, 2024.

LD 282 An Act to Allow the Department of Health and Human Services to Authorize Standing Orders

Sponsor: Rep. Graham <https://legislature.maine.gov/LawMakerWeb/summary.asp?paper=HP0180&SessionID=15>

Health & Human Services **Committee Status:** OTP
Public Hearing: 2/16/2023 1:00 PM **Final Status:**

This bill allows the Department of Health and Human Services to authorize standing orders for the dispensing of vaccines and nonprescription drugs to MaineCare members, participants in the state-funded medical program for noncitizens, enrollees in the elderly low-cost drug program, certain qualified residents and persons receiving Cub Care to support access to preventive care and medically necessary services.

LD 299 An Act to Amend the Laws Regarding Health and Human Services

Sponsor: Rep. Meyer <https://legislature.maine.gov/LawMakerWeb/summary.asp?ID=280085578>

Health & Human Services **Committee Status:**
Public Hearing: **Final Status:**

This concept draft is a placeholder filed by the HHS Committee House Chair.

LD 301 An Act to Exempt Employers from Providing Earned Paid Leave for Certain Employees

Sponsor: Rep. Poirier <https://legislature.maine.gov/LawMakerWeb/summary.asp?ID=280085583>

Labor & Housing **Committee Status:**
Public Hearing: 2/16/2023 1:00 PM **Final Status:**

This bill exempts substitute teachers, other substitute employees, coaches and temporary employees in school administrative units and part-time or temporary employees in a retail trade or a service-related industry from being covered by the law that requires employers to offer earned paid leave to employees.

LD 302 An Act to Ensure Sufficient Rates for Behavioral Health Services

Sponsor: Rep. Madigan <https://legislature.maine.gov/LawMakerWeb/summary.asp?ID=280085587>

Health & Human Services **Committee Status:**
Public Hearing: **Final Status:**

This concept draft would direct DHHS to increase the Medicaid rates in Section 65, for medication management, home and community-based treatment, multi-systemic therapy and functional family therapy and Section 17, for assertive community treatment.



LD 303 An Act to Provide Health Insurance, Reduce Administrative Burdens, Reduce Costs and Improve Health Outcomes

Sponsor: *Rep. Pringle* <https://legislature.maine.gov/LawMakerWeb/summary.asp?ID=280085589>

Health Coverage, Insurance & Financial Services **Committee Status:**
Public Hearing: **Final Status:**

This concept draft has no content

LD 307 An Act to Lower the State's Health Care Costs

Sponsor: *Rep. Morris* <https://legislature.maine.gov/LawMakerWeb/summary.asp?ID=280085594>

Health & Human Services **Committee Status:**
Public Hearing: **Final Status:**

This concept draft has no content.

LD 312 An Act to Improve Health Outcomes by Expanding the Perinatal Workforce to Include Professionals Such as Community Health Workers and Doulas and to Provide MaineCare Reimbursement for Services

Sponsor: *Sen. Carney* <https://legislature.maine.gov/LawMakerWeb/summary.asp?paper=SP0133&SessionID=15>

Health & Human Services **Committee Status:**
Public Hearing: **Final Status:**

This concept draft has no content.

LD 321 An Act to Create a Bill of Rights for Temporary Workers

Sponsor: *Sen. Tipping* <https://legislature.maine.gov/LawMakerWeb/summary.asp?ID=280085557>

Labor & Housing **Committee Status:**
Public Hearing: **Final Status:**

This concept draft has no content.

LD 324 An Act to Prevent the Wrongful Firing of Maine Workers

Sponsor: *Sen. Tipping* <https://legislature.maine.gov/LawMakerWeb/summary.asp?ID=280085560>

Labor & Housing **Committee Status:**
Public Hearing: **Final Status:**

This concept draft proposes to enact the Secure Jobs Act, which establishes a framework for 6 employee discipline and discharge, prohibits the unjust discharge of an employee, requires 7 employers to use progressive discipline measures, limits the use of electronic monitoring, 8 provides for severance pay, provides remedies for wrongfully discharged employees and 9 authorizes the recovery of damages.

LD 329 An Act to Ensure Health Care for All Maine Residents

Sponsor: *Sen/ Tipping* <https://legislature.maine.gov/LawMakerWeb/summary.asp?ID=280085569>

Health Coverage, Insurance & Financial Services **Committee Status:**
Public Hearing: **Final Status:**

This concept draft has no content.



LD 353 An Act Concerning Substance Use Disorder, Treatment, Recovery, Prevention and Education

Sponsor: *Sen. Farrin* <https://legislature.maine.gov/LawMakerWeb/summary.asp?ID=280085616>

Health & Human Services

Committee Status:

Public Hearing:

Final Status:

This bill would improve and expand treatment and recovery services for persons with substance use disorder, strengthen prevention efforts and modernize education requirements for clinicians.

LD 361 An Act to Increase the Reimbursement for Electronic Consultations Through Medicaid

Sponsor: *Sen. Baldacci* <https://legislature.maine.gov/LawMakerWeb/summary.asp?ID=280085636>

Health & Human Services

Committee Status:

Public Hearing:

Final Status:

This concept draft has no content.

LD 366 An Act to Promote Workforce Development

Sponsor: *Sen. Curry* <https://legislature.maine.gov/LawMakerWeb/summary.asp?ID=280085641>

Innovation, Development, Economic Advancement & Business

Committee Status:

Public Hearing: 3/28/2023 1:00 PM

Final Status:

This concept draft has no content.

LD 372 An Act to Increase Enforcement and Accountability for Wage and Hour Violations

Sponsor: *Sen. Tipping* <https://legislature.maine.gov/LawMakerWeb/summary.asp?ID=280085649>

Labor & Housing

Committee Status:

Public Hearing:

Final Status:

This concept draft has no content.

LD 373 An Act to Improve Labor Conditions for Maine Workers

Sponsor: *Sen. Tipping* <https://legislature.maine.gov/LawMakerWeb/summary.asp?ID=280085650>

Labor & Housing

Committee Status:

Public Hearing:

Final Status:

This concept draft has no content.



LD 378 Resolve, to Eliminate the So-called Fail First Requirement for Children's Residential Services for Certain Individuals Whose Needs Are Unable to Be Met with Home and Community-based Services by Expanding Eligibility for Those Individuals

Sponsor: *Rep. Crockett* <https://legislature.maine.gov/LawMakerWeb/summary.asp?ID=280085665>

Health & Human Services

Committee Status: TABLED

Public Hearing:

Final Status:

This resolve directs the Department of Health and Human Services to amend its rules regarding eligibility for children's residential services to include individuals who are unable to access services in the home or community or who are hospitalized and unable to secure clinical documentation that the individual's treatment needs cannot be met by outpatient or home and community-based treatment models and in other circumstances in which an individual cannot be safely maintained at home or in the community.

LD 420 An Act to Fund a Health Program for Medical Professionals

Sponsor: *Rep. Pringle* <https://legislature.maine.gov/LawMakerWeb/summary.asp?ID=280085764>

Health Coverage, Insurance & Financial Services

Committee Status:

Public Hearing:

Final Status:

This concept draft proposes to provide funds for a health program for medical professionals to assist licensing boards that provide monitoring services to health care professionals with illnesses or behavioral challenges that may affect their ability to practice.

LD 424 An Act Making Certain Appropriations and Allocations and Changing Certain Provisions of the Law Necessary to the Proper Operations of State Government

Sponsor: *Rep. Sachs* <https://legislature.maine.gov/LawMakerWeb/summary.asp?ID=280085774>

Appropriations & Financial Affairs

Committee Status:

Public Hearing:

Final Status:

Supplemental Budget (SFY 24-25) Placeholder

LD 430 An Act to Provide Translation Services for Hospital Patients

Sponsor: *Rep. Madigan* <https://legislature.maine.gov/LawMakerWeb/summary.asp?ID=280085753>

Health & Human Services

Committee Status:

Public Hearing: 3/17/2023 10:00 AM

Final Status:

This bill requires hospitals to make every effort to provide an appropriate adult translator for a patient of the hospital who cannot understand English and to provide any discharge instructions, any directions for prescription medications or anything else the patient must sign in the course of the patient's treatment or as a condition of the patient's release in a language that the patient understands.

LD 432 An Act to Clarify MaineCare Program Requirements Regarding Certain High-risk Health Care Providers

Sponsor: *Rep. Madigan* <https://legislature.maine.gov/LawMakerWeb/summary.asp?ID=280085756>

Health & Human Services

Committee Status:

Public Hearing: 3/17/2023 10:00 AM

Final Status:

This bill clarifies the MaineCare program requirements with regard to certain high-risk providers (new home health, new DMEPOS, new MDPP, new or non-continuously certified opioid treatment programs, new SNFs or SNFs with a change of owner). It also requires a person with a certain level of ownership interest in a high-risk provider to submit to a fingerprint-based criminal history record background check.



LD 435 Resolve, to Ensure the Provision of Medically Necessary Behavioral Health Care Services for Children in Their Homes and Communities

Sponsor: Rep. Gramlich <https://legislature.maine.gov/LawMakerWeb/summary.asp?ID=280085760>

Health & Human Services **Committee Status:**
Public Hearing: 3/29/2023 1:00 PM **Final Status:**

This resolve directs the Department of Health and Human Services to develop a plan by October 1, 2023 to ensure that medically necessary home-based and community-based behavioral health care services are available in the scope, intensity and duration necessary to meet the needs of children and their families in the State.

LD 445 Resolve, Directing the Department of Health and Human Services to Apply for a Waiver from the Federal Government for the Medicaid Limitation on Payment to a Facility with More Than 16 Inpatient Beds for Psychiatric Treatment

Sponsor: Sen. Baldacci <https://legislature.maine.gov/LawMakerWeb/summary.asp?ID=280085751>

Health & Human Services **Committee Status:**
Public Hearing: 3/17/2023 10:00 AM **Final Status:**

This resolve requires the Department of Health and Human Services to apply to the United States Department of Health and Human Services for a waiver to allow Medicaid covered services to individuals who are inpatients in a hospital, nursing facility or other institution with more than 16 beds that is primarily engaged in providing diagnosis, treatment or care to persons with mental disease.

LD 448 An Act to Improve Access to Behavioral Health Services for Maine Families and Children on MaineCare and to Increase the Number of Behavioral Health Professionals in the State

Sponsor: Rep. Skold <https://legislature.maine.gov/LawMakerWeb/summary.asp?ID=280085784>

Health & Human Services **Committee Status:**
Public Hearing: **Final Status:**

This concept draft proposes to enact measures to improve access to behavioral health services for families and children on MaineCare and to increase the number of behavioral health professionals in the State.

LD 451 An Act to Ensure Transparent and Accountable Temporary Nurse Agencies

Sponsor: Sen. Baldacci <https://legislature.maine.gov/LawMakerWeb/summary.asp?ID=280085805>

Health & Human Services **Committee Status:**
Public Hearing: 3/16/2023 2:00 PM **Final Status:**

This bill requires temporary nurse agencies to renew registration annually and to update the registration if a temporary nurse agency changes ownership, operation or location. The bill increases the cost of registration for a temporary nurse agency from \$25 to \$1,000. The bill requires that temporary nurse agencies ensure that each employee it refers to a provider for a position meets the state and federal qualification requirements for that position, and maintains records to that effect. This bill prohibits agencies from requiring employees to recruit other employees. The bill requires temporary nurse agencies to submit an annual report to the Department of Health and Human Services, which is then required to submit a summary report to the Joint Standing Committee on Health and Human Services

LD 459 An Act to Update the Procedures for Issuance of Orders Related to Involuntary Hospitalizations

Sponsor: Sen. Keim <https://legislature.maine.gov/LawMakerWeb/summary.asp?ID=280085817>

Judiciary **Committee Status:** DIV RPT
Public Hearing: 3/8/2023 1:00 PM **Final Status:**

This bill authorizes the use of an electronic copy of the documents associated with requesting or issuing an order for involuntary commitment.



LD 463 Resolve, to Ensure Continued MaineCare Coverage for Persons Formerly in Foster Care Until They Attain 27 Years of Age

Sponsor: Rep. Madigan <https://legislature.maine.gov/LawMakerWeb/summary.asp?ID=280085835>

Health & Human Services **Committee Status:**
Public Hearing: 3/17/2023 10:00 AM **Final Status:**

This resolve requires the Department of Health and Human Services to amend its rules by November 6, 2024 to provide MaineCare coverage for a person formerly placed in foster care until the person attains 27 years of age.

LD 465 An Act to Provide for an Electronic Permit for the Disposition of Human Remains

Sponsor: Rep. Thorne <https://legislature.maine.gov/LawMakerWeb/summary.asp?ID=280085840>

Health & Human Services **Committee Status:**
Public Hearing: 3/30/2023 2:00 PM **Final Status:**

This bill authorizes a funeral director or authorized person present at a burial or crematory in this State to electronically affirm the disposition of human remains.

LD 472 An Act to Support Certified Community Behavioral Health Clinic Projects

Sponsor: Rep. Madigan <https://legislature.maine.gov/LawMakerWeb/summary.asp?ID=280085838>

Health & Human Service **Committee Status:**
Public Hearing: 4/5/2023 1:00 PM **Final Status:**

This bill provides \$4 million in one-time funding to bridge the gap for grants that are ending for mental health organizations participating in certified community behavioral health clinic projects.

LD 474 An Act to Improve Collaboration Between Mandatory Reporters and Law Enforcement in the Investigation of Alleged Child Abuse and Neglect

Sponsor: Rep. Meyer <https://legislature.maine.gov/LawMakerWeb/summary.asp?ID=280085845>

Health & Human Services **Committee Status:**
Public Hearing: 3/15/2023 1:00 PM **Final Status:**

This bill requires that a member of the staff of a public or private medical institution, agency or facility or person in charge of the institution, agency or facility or the designated agent who made a mandated report disclose the same information the member or person reported to the Department of Health and Human Services to a law enforcement officer upon request of the law enforcement officer. The bill also provides immunity for a person who made a report of suspected abuse or neglect who is participating in good faith in a law enforcement investigation or criminal justice proceeding relating to suspected abuse or neglect.

LD 475 An Act to Simplify and Clarify the Licensing of Assisted Housing Facilities

Sponsor: Rep. Meyer <https://legislature.maine.gov/LawMakerWeb/summary.asp?ID=280085848>

Health & Human Services **Committee Status:**
Public Hearing: 3/22/2023 1:00 PM **Final Status:**

This bill accomplishes the following. 1. It replaces the term "assisted housing program" with the term "assisted housing facility." 2. It replaces the term "assisted living program" with the term "assisted living facility." 3. It amends the definition of "assisted housing services" to include medication management and nursing services and removes those services from the definition of "assisted living services." 4. It amends the definition of "residential care facility" to clarify which licensed entities are excluded from the definition. 5. It provides that the term of the license for an assisted housing facility is 2 years.



LD 524 An Act Requiring the Installation of Electric Vehicle Charging Stations in New Commercial and Multifamily Parking Lot Construction

Sponsor: *Rep. Runte* <https://legislature.maine.gov/LawMakerWeb/summary.asp?ID=280086029>

Energy, Utilities and Technology

Committee Status:

Public Hearing:

Final Status:

This amendment replaces the bill and requires a parking facility developer to obtain a permit from the Department of Environmental Protection for the construction of a parking facility with 10 or more parking spaces constructed on or after January 1, 2024 or a parking facility with 20 or more parking spaces enlarged on or after January 1, 2024 to increase the number of parking spaces by 30 percent or more certifying that the parking facility will be equipped with a certain percentage of its parking spaces being charger-ready spaces. Medical facilities would have to provide 10% of its lot as EV charger-ready. The Department of Environmental Protection is required to administer the permit program for parking facility developers and to adopt rules necessary to administer the program.

LD 526 An Act to Provide Funding to Emergency Medical Services Organizations

Sponsor: *Speaker Talbot* <https://legislature.maine.gov/LawMakerWeb/summary.asp?ID=280086032>

Criminal Justice & Public Safety

Committee Status:

Public Hearing: 3/20/2023 10:00 AM

Final Status:

This bill provides a one-time General Fund appropriation of \$25,000,000 in fiscal year 2023-24 to the Department of Public Safety targeting emergency medical services organizations at immediate risk of failing and leaving their service areas without access to adequate emergency medical services.

LD 530 An Act to Facilitate the Installation of Safe Haven Baby Boxes at Hospitals, Law Enforcement Facilities and Fire Departments

Sponsor: *Rep. White* <https://legislature.maine.gov/LawMakerWeb/summary.asp?ID=280086048>

Judiciary

Committee Status: DIV RPT

Public Hearing: 3/2/2023 1:00 PM

Final Status:

This bill repeals the rule-making requirement for the provision of law regarding the safe design, installation and use of safe haven baby boxes.

LD 535 An Act to Increase Access to Necessary Medical Care for Certain Minors

Sponsor: *Rep. Sheehan* <https://legislature.maine.gov/LawMakerWeb/summary.asp?ID=280086057>

Public Hearing:

Committee Status:

Final Status:

This concept draft has no content.

LD 549 An Act Regarding a Discovery Rule for the Statute of Limitations for Cases of Medical Negligence

Sponsor: *Rep. Moonen* <https://legislature.maine.gov/LawMakerWeb/summary.asp?ID=280086061>

Public Hearing:

Committee Status:

Final Status:

Under current law, the statute of limitations on a medical malpractice claim begins to run on the date of the act or omission that gave rise to the injury, unless the medical malpractice claim is based on the leaving of a foreign object in the body. The statute of limitations does not begin to run on a medical malpractice claim based on the leaving of a foreign object in the body until the plaintiff discovers or reasonably should have discovered the harm. This bill provides that the statute of limitations does not begin to run on any medical malpractice claim, regardless of whether the claim is based on the leaving of a foreign object in the body, until the plaintiff discovers or reasonably should have discovered the harm. The bill also makes a technical change to remove an obsolete cross-reference in the law.



LD 590 RESOLUTION, Proposing an Amendment to the Constitution of Maine to Establish a Right to Health Care

Sponsor: *Sen. Hickman* <https://legislature.maine.gov/LawMakerWeb/summary.asp?ID=280086157>

Committee Status:

Public Hearing:

Final Status:

This resolution proposes a constitutional amendment to establish that health care, including care to prevent and treat physical and mental illness, is the right of the people and necessary to ensure the strength of the State and requires the Legislature to provide by law the implementation and enforcement of this right.

LD 597 An Act to Improve Conditions for People Living in Recovery Residences by Requiring Approved Discharge and Transfer Policies

Sponsor: *Rep. Madigan* <https://legislature.maine.gov/LawMakerWeb/summary.asp?ID=280086175>

Health & Human Services

Committee Status:

Public Hearing: 4/3/2023 10:00 AM

Final Status:

This bill requires that certified recovery residences have a written discharge and transfer policy that is approved by the Department of Health and Human Services. It provides that notwithstanding any landlord and tenant rights and obligations under the Maine Revised Statutes, Title 14, chapter 709, a recovery residence with an approved discharge and transfer policy may immediately discharge or transfer a resident in accordance with the policy if the discharge or transfer is necessary for the resident's welfare, the resident's needs cannot be met at the recovery residence or the health and safety of other residents or recovery residence employees are at risk or would be at risk if the resident continues to live at the recovery residence. It requires that the department adopt routine technical rules describing the requirements of a discharge and transfer policy.

LD 600 An Act to Expand Availability of Naloxone Hydrochloride

Sponsor: *Rep. Craven* <https://legislature.maine.gov/LawMakerWeb/summary.asp?ID=280086181>

Health & Human Services

Committee Status:

Public Hearing: 4/3/2023 10:00 AM

Final Status:

This bill allows an overdose prevention program, with the express consent of a municipality, to provide and maintain naloxone hydrochloride in a visible and publicly accessible wall-mounted box or other container in municipal places to be used by a member of the public in response to an opioid-related drug overdose. The bill also provides immunity from criminal and civil liability to municipalities and overdose prevention programs for providing or maintaining the naloxone hydrochloride containers.

LD 601 An Act to Reduce the Shortage of Municipal Emergency Medical Services Personnel by Removing Certain Vaccination Requirements

Sponsor: *Rep. Moriarty* <https://legislature.maine.gov/LawMakerWeb/summary.asp?ID=280086185>

Health Coverage, Insurance & Financial Services

Committee Status:

Public Hearing:

Final Status:

This bill allows emergency medical services persons to provide treatment within the scope of their licenses without having been vaccinated against the COVID-19 virus or the influenza virus.

LD 615 An Act to Ensure Access to Newly Born Male Infant Circumcision by Requiring MaineCare and Health Insurance Coverage

Sponsor: *Rep. Murphy* <https://legislature.maine.gov/LawMakerWeb/summary.asp?ID=280086195>

Health Coverage, Insurance & Financial Services

Committee Status:

Public Hearing: 3/23/2023 1:00 PM

Final Status:

Part A of this bill requires health insurance coverage for newly born male infant circumcision. The requirements apply beginning on January 1, 2024.

Part B of this bill requires the MaineCare program to provide reimbursement for the costs of newly born male infant circumcision beginning January 1, 2024.



LD 616 An Act to Protect Health Care Professionals Providing Reproductive Health Care Services

Sponsor: *Rep. Kuhn* <https://legislature.maine.gov/bills/getPDF.asp?paper=HP0393&item=1&snum=131>

Health Coverage, Insurance & Financial Services **Committee Status:**
Public Hearing: **Final Status:**

This bill prohibits an insurer that provides medical malpractice insurance in this State from taking any adverse action against a health care professional that provides abortion or other reproductive health care services on the sole basis that a health care professional is acting in violation of another state's law or a revocation or other adverse action against a health care professional's license in another state.

LD 637 An Act to Promote the Use of Free Annual Wellness Visits by Ensuring Proper Medical Billing

Sponsor: *Rep. Madigan* <https://legislature.maine.gov/bills/getPDF.asp?paper=HP0414&item=1&snum=131>

Health Coverage, Insurance & Financial Services **Committee Status:**
Public Hearing: 3/7/2023 1:30 PM **Final Status:**

For a health plan with an effective date on or after January 1, 2024, this bill prohibits a health insurance carrier from requiring a provider to submit a claim, use a billing code or otherwise submit documentation relating to billing for an annual wellness visit during which the provider does not render any health care services to an enrollee.

LD 663 An Act to Require Health Insurance Coverage for Pediatric Autoimmune Neuropsychiatric Disorders Associated with Streptococcal Infections and Pediatric Acute-onset Neuropsychiatric Syndrome

Sponsor: *Rep. Roeder* <https://legislature.maine.gov/LawMakerWeb/summary.asp?ID=280086448>

Health Coverage, Insurance & Financial Services **Committee Status:**
Public Hearing: 3/28/2023 1:00 PM **Final Status:**

The requirements would apply to all individual and group policies and contracts issued or renewed on or after January 1, 2024.

LD 667 An Act to Impose a Tax Surcharge on Certain Incomes

Sponsor: *Rep. Collings* <https://legislature.maine.gov/LawMakerWeb/summary.asp?ID=280086454>

Taxation **Committee Status:**
Public Hearing: **Final Status:**

This bill establishes an income tax surcharge of 3% on taxable income in excess of \$1,000,000 and 6% on taxable income in excess of \$10,000,000 and requires that the revenue collected from the surcharge must be spent on public kindergarten to grade 12 education and rural economic development.

LD 676 An Act to Protect Financial Privacy

Sponsor: *Rep. Andrews* <https://legislature.maine.gov/LawMakerWeb/summary.asp?ID=280086471>

Judiciary **Committee Status:**
Public Hearing: 3/7/2023 1:00 PM **Final Status:**

This bill repeals the exception in current law that permits a financial institution or credit union authorized to do business in this State to disclose financial records about a customer without a lawful subpoena, summons, warrant or court order in response to a request for information related to establishing, modifying or enforcing tax liabilities. The bill also clarifies that a financial institution or credit union may not disclose records to any federal agency unless the records are disclosed pursuant to a lawful subpoena, summons, warrant or court order requested by the agency.



LD 706 An Act to Improve Access to Specialty Health Care Providers by Reducing Copayments

Sponsor: *Rep. Morris* <https://legislature.maine.gov/LawMakerWeb/summary.asp?ID=280086493>

Health Coverage, Insurance & Financial Services **Committee Status:**
Public Hearing: 3/7/2023 1:30 PM **Final Status:**

This bill limits the amount of the copayment that carriers offering health plans in this State may impose for a health care service rendered by a health care provider, other than a primary care provider, to no less than the copayment for primary care services and to no more than 50% of the allowed amount under a carrier's health plan for that health care service. The requirements apply to health plans beginning on or after January 1, 2024.

LD 717 An Act to Adopt the Audiology and Speech-Language Pathology Interstate Compact

Sponsor: *Sen. Stewart* <https://legislature.maine.gov/LawMakerWeb/summary.asp?ID=280086365>

Health Coverage, Insurance & Financial Services **Committee Status:**
Public Hearing: 3/21/2023 1:00 PM **Final Status:**

This concept draft has no content but does have an internet link to the compact terms:
<https://legislature.maine.gov/doc/9563>

LD 722 An Act to Expedite the Health Insurance Referral Process for Specialists by Allowing Referrals from Urgent Care Facilities

Sponsor: *Sen. Reny* <https://legislature.maine.gov/LawMakerWeb/summary.asp?ID=280086374>

Health Coverage, Insurance & Financial Services **Committee Status:**
Public Hearing: 3/7/2023 1:30 PM **Final Status:**

This bill prohibits a health insurance carrier from denying payment for any health care service covered under an enrollee's health plan provided by a specialist based solely on the basis that the enrollee's referral was not made by the enrollee's primary care provider as long as the referral is made by a provider employed at an urgent care facility. The requirements apply beginning January 1, 2024.

LD 723 An Act to Protect Consumers by Prohibiting Discrimination by Insurers Based on Certain Information

Sponsor: *Pres. Jackson* <https://legislature.maine.gov/LawMakerWeb/summary.asp?ID=280086376>

Health Coverage, Insurance & Financial Services **Committee Status:**
Public Hearing: **Final Status:**

This bill prohibits an insurer from using information disclosed in a consumer credit report to charge a higher premium rate based on the insured person's race, ethnicity, religion, gender, income, lack of credit history or zip code.

LD 738 An Act to Establish a Paid Family and Medical Leave System

Sponsor: *Sen. Daughtry* <https://legislature.maine.gov/LawMakerWeb/summary.asp?ID=280086411>

Labor & Housing **Committee Status:**
Public Hearing: **Final Status:**

This concept draft has no content.

LD 741 An Act to Prohibit Training Repayment Agreements by Employers

Sponsor: *Sen. Tipping* <https://legislature.maine.gov/LawMakerWeb/summary.asp?ID=280086416>

Labor & Housing **Committee Status:**
Public Hearing: 3/21/2023 1:00 PM **Final Status:**

This bill specifies that an employer may not require an employee to enter into an agreement that requires the employee to reimburse the employer for training costs related to the employment if the employee leaves employment with that employer. The Department of Labor is required to enforce this provision.



LD 757 An Act to Expand Telemonitoring for MaineCare Patients

Sponsor: *Sen. Guerin* <https://legislature.maine.gov/LawMakerWeb/summary.asp?ID=280086436>

Health & Human Services

Committee Status:

Public Hearing:

Final Status:

This bill amends the law governing MaineCare services delivered through telehealth to change the rule-making authority of the Department of Health and Human Services, providing that qualifying criteria for telemonitoring services include documentation in a patient's medical record that the patient may be hospitalized or admitted or readmitted to an emergency room at the discretion of the patient's health care provider. It also conditions MaineCare coverage for telemonitoring services on the intention to collect a patient's health-related data to assist in monitoring and assessing the patient's health status, telemonitoring's being medically necessary, the patient's capacity to participate in telemonitoring and the patient's having a suitable residence for telemonitoring.

LD 759 An Act to Reduce Out-of-pocket Prescription Drug Expenses for Coinsurance

Sponsor: *Sen. Baldacci* <https://legislature.maine.gov/LawMakerWeb/summary.asp?ID=280086438>

Health Coverage, Insurance & Financial Services

Committee Status:

Public Hearing: 3/7/2023 1:30 PM

Final Status:

This bill reduces from \$3,500 to \$1,500 per year the maximum out-of-pocket limit for prescription drugs subject to coinsurance that a carrier may establish.

LD 767 An Act to Provide Uniform Protections from Retaliation for Maine Workers in Connection with the Exercise of Rights Protected Under the Laws Governing Employment Practices

Sponsor: *Sen. Carney* <https://legislature.maine.gov/LawMakerWeb/summary.asp?ID=280086560>

Labor & Housing

Committee Status:

Public Hearing: 3/23/2023 2:00 PM

Final Status:

This bill provides that an employer that takes action intended to prevent or penalize a person from exercising rights protected under the laws governing employment practices commits a civil violation for which a fine of not less than \$500 nor more than \$1,000 for each violation may be adjudged, in addition to any other remedy available under the laws governing employment practices. The Department of Labor and the Attorney General may file a civil action to enforce the provisions of the bill.

LD 776 RESOLUTION, Proposing an Amendment to the Constitution of Maine to Establish the Right to Bodily Autonomy

Sponsor: *Sen. Hickman* <https://legislature.maine.gov/LawMakerWeb/summary.asp?ID=280086569>

Judiciary

Committee Status:

Public Hearing:

Final Status:

This resolution proposes to amend the Constitution of Maine by declaring that every person has a natural, inherent and inalienable right to bodily autonomy.

The referenda question would read:

"Do you favor amending the Constitution of Maine to declare that every person has a natural, inherent and inalienable right to bodily autonomy?"

LD 780 RESOLUTION, Proposing an Amendment to the Constitution of Maine to Protect Personal Reproductive Autonomy

Sponsor: *Sen. Vitelli* <https://legislature.maine.gov/LawMakerWeb/summary.asp?ID=280086573>

Judiciary

Committee Status:

Public Hearing:

Final Status:

"Do you favor amending the Constitution of Maine to declare that every person has a right to personal reproductive autonomy?"



LD 781 An Act to Protect Nursing Home Residents by Requiring Nursing Homes to Provide Silent Bed Alarms for Residents with Dementia

Sponsor: *Sen. Chipman* <https://legislature.maine.gov/LawMakerWeb/summary.asp?ID=280086574>

Health & Human Services

Committee Status:

Public Hearing: 3/27/2023 10:00 AM

Final Status:

This bill requires all licensed nursing facilities to prevent injury or death by providing silent bed alarms that directly signal nursing home staff to residents who have dementia and are unable to use a call button if they fall out of a bed or chair. The bill also directs the Department of Health and Human Services to adopt rules to implement this provision.

LD 796 An Act Concerning Prior Authorizations for Health Care Provider Services

Sponsor: *Rep. Pringle* <https://legislature.maine.gov/LawMakerWeb/summary.asp?ID=280086593>

Health Coverage, Insurance & Financial Services

Committee Status:

Public Hearing:

Final Status:

This concept draft has no content.

LD 813 Resolve, to Study Methods to Increase Access to Medication-assisted Treatment for Substance Use Disorder

Sponsor: *Rep. Eaton* <https://legislature.maine.gov/LawMakerWeb/summary.asp?ID=280086598>

Health & Human Services

Committee Status:

Public Hearing: 4/3/2023 10:00 AM

Final Status:

This resolve directs the Office of Policy Innovation and the Future to convene a working group to study the feasibility of and barriers to establishing a mobile methadone clinic in the State and other methods to increase local access to medication-assisted treatment for substance use disorder. It requires the office to submit a report related to the study, including recommendations and any suggested legislation, to the Health and Human Services Committee by December 6, 2023.

LD 821 Resolve, to Improve Access to Neurobehavioral Services

Sponsor: *Rep. Lemelin* <https://legislature.maine.gov/LawMakerWeb/summary.asp?ID=280086595>

Health & Human Services

Committee Status:

Public Hearing: 3/21/2023 1:00 PM

Final Status:

This resolve requires the Department of Health and Human Services to provide by September 1, 2024 16 new neurobehavioral beds in one or more neurobehavioral centers to serve individuals with significant behavioral challenges and complex medical needs who need evaluation and short-term treatment before transitioning to a long-term care environment either in the community or in a long-term care facility.

LD 840 An Act to Support Individuals with Personality Disorder or Emotional Dysregulation by Requiring Reimbursement Under the MaineCare Program

Sponsor: *Rep. Madigan* <https://legislature.maine.gov/LawMakerWeb/summary.asp?ID=280086626>

Health & Human Services

Committee Status:

Public Hearing: 4/5/2023 1:00 PM

Final Status:

This bill requires the Department of Health and Human Services, beginning January 1, 2024, to reimburse under the MaineCare program for the treatment of personality disorder and emotional dysregulation. The bill also requires the department to establish a bundled reimbursement rate for the treatment of MaineCare members diagnosed with personality disorder or emotional dysregulation.



LD 843 An Act to Improve Income Tax Progressivity by Establishing a New Top Individual Income Tax Rate

Sponsor: *Rep. Osher* <https://legislature.maine.gov/LawMakerWeb/summary.asp?ID=280086631>

Taxation

Committee Status:

Public Hearing:

Final Status:

This bill establishes an additional income tax bracket with a tax rate of 11.15% for taxable income exceeding \$125,000 for single individuals and married persons filing separately, \$150,000 for heads of households and \$250,000 for married persons filing jointly and surviving spouses.

LD 844 An Act to Protect the Practice of Certain Cardiovascular Professionals

Sponsor: *Rep. Millett* <https://legislature.maine.gov/LawMakerWeb/summary.asp?ID=280086633>

Health Coverage, Insurance & Financial Services

Committee Status:

Public Hearing: 3/16/2023 1:00 PM

Final Status:

This bill ensures that cardiovascular professionals who have been formally trained and issued credentials by a nationally recognized association of cardiovascular professionals may perform actions necessary to assist a physician while the physician is performing cardiac catheterization or electrophysiology procedures.

LD 856 An Act to Reduce Recurring Workplace Harassment and Provide Consequences for Serial Offenders

Sponsor: *Rep. Osher* <https://legislature.maine.gov/LawMakerWeb/summary.asp?ID=280086689>

Labor & Housing

Committee Status:

Public Hearing:

Final Status:

This concept draft has no content.

LD 858 An Act to Require the State to Invest in Federal Certified Community Behavioral Health Clinics

Sponsor: *Sen. Baldacci* <https://legislature.maine.gov/LawMakerWeb/summary.asp?paper=SP0355&SessionID=15>

Health & Human Services

Committee Status:

Public Hearing:

Final Status:

This concept draft has no content.

LD 859 An Act to Assess, Develop, Implement and Fund the Reuse of Existing Facilities at Dorothea Dix Psychiatric Center to Provide Mental Health, Substance Use Disorder and Homelessness Services

Sponsor: *Sen. Baldacci* <https://legislature.maine.gov/LawMakerWeb/summary.asp?paper=SP0356&SessionID=15>

Health & Human Services

Committee Status:

Public Hearing:

Final Status:

This concept draft has no content.



LD 882 An Act to Allow Nonmunicipal Emergency Medical Services Providers to Be Considered State Employees for Purposes of Certain Benefits

Sponsor: Rep. Salisbury <https://legislature.maine.gov/bills/getPDF.asp?paper=HP0548&item=1&snum=131>

Labor & Housing

Committee Status:

Public Hearing:

Final Status:

This bill allows an ambulance service or nontransporting emergency medical service to participate in the State's Participating Local District Consolidated Retirement Plan as a local district so that its employees who are emergency medical services providers may receive state retirement benefits, death benefits and disability retirement benefits. The bill also allows these employees to be eligible for the state group health plan.

LD 883 An Act to Exempt Emergency Medical Services Community Paramedicine Programs from Home Health Care Provider Licensing Requirements

Sponsor: Rep. Salisbury <https://legislature.maine.gov/bills/getPDF.asp?paper=HP0549&item=1&snum=131>

Health & Human Services

Committee Status:

Public Hearing: 3/22/2023 1:00 PM

Final Status:

This bill excepts from the definition of "home health care provider" a licensed emergency medical services provider providing community paramedicine services approved by the Emergency Medical Services' Board and exempts from Department of Health and Human Services home health services licensing requirements a provider providing approved community paramedicine services.

LD 899 An Act to Authorize Vaccine Administration by Pharmacy Technicians and Reduce Vaccine Administration Training Requirements for Pharmacists

Sponsor: Rep. Nutting <https://legislature.maine.gov/LawMakerWeb/summary.asp?ID=280086812>

Health Coverage, Insurance & Financial Services

Committee Status:

Public Hearing: 3/16/2023 1:00 PM

Final Status:

This bill authorizes certified pharmacy technicians to administer vaccines under the direct supervision of a pharmacist. The bill amends the drug or vaccine administration training requirements for pharmacists by removing the requirement that certain training requirements were completed in the previous 3 years.

LD 902 An Act to Repeal So-called MaineCare Expansion

Sponsor: Rep. Lemelin <https://legislature.maine.gov/LawMakerWeb/summary.asp?ID=280086823>

Health & Human Services

Committee Status:

Public Hearing:

Final Status:

This bill repeals the provision of law that expanded the MaineCare program pursuant to Initiated Bill 2017, chapter 1.

LD 904 An Act Supporting the Rural Health Care Workforce in Maine

Sponsor: Rep. Osher <https://legislature.maine.gov/LawMakerWeb/summary.asp?ID=280086808>

Health & Human Services

Committee Status:

Public Hearing:

Final Status:

This bill establishes the Maine Rural Health Care Education Workforce Fund with an ongoing \$500,000 appropriation to support primary care and health professions workforce development in rural parts of the State.



LD 906 An Act to Ensure Physicians Receive Full Diagnostic Test Data Concerning Tick-borne Diseases

Sponsor: *Rep. Shagoury* <https://legislature.maine.gov/LawMakerWeb/summary.asp?ID=280086813>

Health & Human Services

Committee Status:

Public Hearing: 3/22/2023 1:00 PM

Final Status:

This bill requires a medical laboratory that reports the results of a diagnostic test for a tick-borne disease, including Lyme disease, babesiosis, anaplasmosis and ehrlichiosis, to report all information gathered in the process of producing the test result, including the specific data used to determine the result.

LD 908 Resolve, to Establish a Comprehensive Integrated Co-occurring Behavioral Health Home Model Within the MaineCare Program

Sponsor: *Rep. Stover* <https://legislature.maine.gov/LawMakerWeb/summary.asp?ID=280086819>

Health & Human Services

Committee Status:

Public Hearing: 4/5/2023 1:00 PM

Final Status:

This resolve directs the Department of Health and Human Services to establish a new health home model that includes services for substance use disorder and co-occurring mental health diagnoses in one model and a new payment model.

LD 914 An Act to Amend the Duties of the Office of Affordable Health Care

Sponsor: *Rep. Meyer* <https://legislature.maine.gov/LawMakerWeb/summary.asp?ID=280086822>

Health & Human Services

Committee Status:

Public Hearing: 3/21/2023 1:00 PM

Final Status:

This bill is a recommendation from the Advisory Panel to Better Understand and Make Recommendations Regarding the Implications of Genome-editing Technology for the Citizens of the State. This bill adds a duty to the Office of Affordable Health Care to analyze the potential costs and savings of new and emerging technologies in health care treatment.

LD 915 Resolve, to Establish the Blue Ribbon Commission to Study the Organization of and Service Delivery by the Department of Health and Human Services

Sponsor: *Rep. Shagoury* <https://legislature.maine.gov/LawMakerWeb/summary.asp?ID=280086839>

Health & Human Services

Committee Status:

Public Hearing:

Final Status:

This resolve creates the Blue Ribbon Commission to Study the Organization of and Service Delivery by the Department of Health and Human Services to examine the organizational structure of the Department of Health and Human Services and the services provided by the department and review the organizational structure of and service delivery at similar agencies in other states and in nongovernmental organizations.

LD 919 An Act to Facilitate Employment in the Field of Emergency Medical Services

Sponsor: *Sen. Grohoski* <https://legislature.maine.gov/LawMakerWeb/summary.asp?ID=280086829>

Criminal Justice & Public Safety

Committee Status:

Public Hearing:

Final Status:

This concept draft has no content.



LD 927 Resolve, Directing the Commissioner of Professional and Financial Regulation to Conduct an Independent Assessment Regarding a Proposal to License Genetic Counselors

Sponsor: Rep. Perry <https://legislature.maine.gov/LawMakerWeb/summary.asp?ID=280086891>

Health Coverage, Insurance & Financial Services **Committee Status:**
Public Hearing: 3/21/2023 1:00 PM **Final Status:**

This resolve is a recommendation from the Advisory Panel To Better Understand and Make Recommendations Regarding the Implications of Genome-editing Technology for the Citizens of the State. It requires the Commissioner of Professional and Financial Regulation to conduct an independent 18 assessment of a proposal to license genetic counselors. The resolve requires the commissioner to submit a report to the Insurance Committee and allows the committee to submit legislation next year.

LD 934 An Act to Amend the Laws Governing Damages Awarded for Wrongful Death

Sponsor: Rep. Moonen <https://legislature.maine.gov/LawMakerWeb/summary.asp?ID=280086916>

Judiciary **Committee Status:**
Public Hearing: 4/6/2023 1:00 PM **Final Status:**

This bill increases the limit on damages for the loss of comfort, society and companionship and emotional distress in a case of wrongful death from \$750,000 to \$1,500,000. It also increases the limit on punitive damages from \$250,000 to \$1,000,000 and increases from 2 years to 3 years the time after the decedent's death within which a wrongful death action must be commenced. The former damages amount was increased 50% two years ago; the latter damages amount was last increased in 2009 (from \$75,000).

LD 936 An Act to Require Disclosure of Pay Ranges and Record Keeping of Pay History

Sponsor: Rep. Roeder <https://legislature.maine.gov/LawMakerWeb/summary.asp?ID=280086934>

Labor & Housing **Committee Status:**
Public Hearing: 3/21/2023 1:00 PM **Final Status:**

This bill does the following.

1. It requires an employer that has 10 or more employees to ensure that any posting of an employment opening includes a statement that lists the range of pay the employer will offer to a successful applicant.
2. It requires an employer that has fewer than 10 employees to disclose, on request, to an applicant for an employment opening the range of pay the employer will offer to a successful applicant.
3. It requires any employer, on the request of an employee, to disclose the range of pay the employer offers for the position the employee holds. It also requires an employer to maintain a record of each position title and the payment history of each employee for the duration of the employee's employment with the employer and for 3 years after the termination of employment with the employer

LD 937 Resolve, to Establish the Commission Regarding Foreign-trained Physicians Living in Maine

Sponsor: Rep. Cloutier <https://legislature.maine.gov/LawMakerWeb/summary.asp?ID=280086935>

Health Coverage, Insurance & Financial Services **Committee Status:**
Public Hearing: 3/21/2023 1:00 PM **Final Status:**

This resolve creates the Commission Regarding Foreign-trained Physicians Living in Maine to study integrating foreign-trained physicians living in the State into the health care workforce to best reflect their level of skills and training, with a focus on those who are here as refugees and asylum seekers. MHA is named member of the Commission.



LD 938 An Act to Assist Nursing Homes in the Management of Facility Beds

Sponsor: Rep. Perry <https://legislature.maine.gov/LawMakerWeb/summary.asp?ID=280086936>

Health & Human Services

Committee Status:

Public Hearing: 4/4/2023 1:00 PM

Final Status:

This bill restores the ability of nursing facilities to voluntarily reduce the number of their licensed beds and then later increase the number of their licensed beds to the prior level after obtaining a certificate of need and meeting certain conditions.

The bill modifies the process to obtain certificate of need approval to reopen reserved beds.

Applications that seek to reopen reserved beds must be approved if the projected incremental costs of reopening and operating the reopened beds are consistent with the facility's costs of operating its other beds. Applicants are not required to demonstrate that any increases in MaineCare costs are offset by other MaineCare savings. The costs of ongoing operation of both the restored beds and the complement of facility beds at the time the reserved beds are reopened must be recognized as allowable costs and incorporated into the facility's MaineCare payment rates.

The bill requires the Department of Health and Human Services to include in its calculation of reimbursement for services provided by a nursing facility the cost incurred by the facility for a medical director. The bill requires the cost incurred by a nursing facility for the acquisition, use and maintenance of computer or cloud-based software systems to be included as a fixed cost.

LD 940 An Act to Allow Pharmacists to Provide Services Through Telehealth and Vending Machines at Federally Qualified Health Centers

Sponsor: Rep. Perry <https://legislature.maine.gov/LawMakerWeb/summary.asp?ID=280086938>

Health Coverage, Insurance & Financial Services

Committee Status:

Public Hearing: 3/21/2023 1:00 PM

Final Status:

This bill authorizes a pharmacist licensed in this State or licensed in another state to provide telehealth services for patients of a federally qualified health center in this State, including delivering those services through a pharmaceutical vending machine located at the health center.

LD 949 An Act to Protect Workers from Employer Surveillance

Sponsor: Rep. Roeder <https://legislature.maine.gov/LawMakerWeb/summary.asp?ID=280086904>

Labor & Housing

Committee Status:

Public Hearing: 4/4/2023 1:00 PM

Final Status:

This bill prohibits employer surveillance unless the surveillance is strictly necessary for employee health and safety or the security of the employer, with certain limitations. It requires employers to provide, upon a verifiable request by an employee, data collected on the employee and certain information regarding that data. It specifies that an employer must provide notice to its employees prior to beginning employer surveillance. It provides that an employee has a private right of action.

LD 953 An Act to Protect Maine Patients Regarding Hospital Price Transparency

Sponsor: Rep. Libby <https://legislature.maine.gov/LawMakerWeb/summary.asp?ID=280086914>

Health & Human Services

Committee Status:

Public Hearing:

Final Status:

This bill requires that hospitals comply with the price transparency requirements established at 45 Code of Federal Regulations, Part 180, as in effect on January 1, 2023. It provides that upon application of the Attorney General, the Department of Health and Human Services or any affected patient, the Superior Court or District Court has full jurisdiction to enforce the price transparency laws. It prohibits a hospital from billing a patient, a patient guarantor or a 3rd-party payor for items or services provided to the patient, and requires that a hospital refund any payment made for items or services provided, on a date the hospital was in violation of the price transparency laws, as determined by a court, and provides for monetary penalties.



Maine Hospital Association

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LD 956 An Act Concerning Sexual Orientation and Gender Identity Data Collection in Health Care Facilities

Sponsor: *Rep. Rana* <https://legislature.maine.gov/LawMakerWeb/summary.asp?paper=HP0603&SessionID=15>

Health & Human Services **Committee Status:**
Public Hearing: 3/22/2023 1:00 PM **Final Status:**

This bill requires health care facilities to collect data related to sexual orientation and gender identity from an individual as part of the individual's health care information. The federal uniform data system has included sexual orientation and gender identity data since 2016. This data is part of an individual's health care information that is confidential under the Maine Revised Statutes, Title 22, section 1711-C.

LD 961 This bill allows employees to request a flexible working arrangement from an employer up to twice per year. An employer must consider a request by an employee for a flexible working arrangement twice per year and discuss the flexible working arrangement with the employee in good faith. The employee and employer may discuss alternative arrangements to the flexible working arrangement. The employer is not required to grant the employee's request for a flexible working arrangement.

Sponsor: *Rep. Warren* <https://legislature.maine.gov/LawMakerWeb/summary.asp?ID=280086948>

Labor & Housing **Committee Status:**
Public Hearing: 4/4/2023 1:00 PM **Final Status:**

This bill allows employees to request a flexible working arrangement from an employer up to twice per year. An employer must consider a request by an employee for a flexible working arrangement twice per year and discuss the flexible working arrangement with the employee in good faith. The employee and employer may discuss alternative arrangements to the flexible working arrangement. The employer is not required to grant the employee's request for a flexible working arrangement.

LD 979 Resolve, to Fund Treatment Services and Certain Transportation Costs for Individuals with Substance Use Disorder

Sponsor: *Rep. Crafts* <https://legislature.maine.gov/LawMakerWeb/summary.asp?ID=280086961>

Health & Human Services **Committee Status:**
Public Hearing: 4/3/2023 10:00 AM **Final Status:**

This bill establishes 200 detoxification beds and inpatient treatment beds for children and adults with substance use disorder and requires the Department of Health and Human Services to fund those beds. It requires that 50% of the beds be reserved for MaineCare members or individuals eligible for Medicare. It directs the department to amend its rules to provide for the reimbursement of transportation of MaineCare members to detoxification facilities.

LD 982 An Act to Allow the Disclosure of Death Certificate Data to Hospitals and Health Care Practitioners

Sponsor: *Sen. Baldacci* <https://legislature.maine.gov/LawMakerWeb/summary.asp?ID=280086924>

Health & Human Services **Committee Status:**
Public Hearing: 3/22/2023 1:00 PM **Final Status:**

This bill requires death certificate data to be provided, upon request, to a hospital or health care practitioner.



LD 995 An Act to Provide Insurance Coverage for a Second Opinion If a Health Care Provider Recommends an Abortion for Health or Safety Reasons

Sponsor: *Rep. Quint* <https://legislature.maine.gov/LawMakerWeb/summary.asp?ID=280086989>

Health Coverage, Insurance & Financial Services **Committee Status:**
Public Hearing: **Final Status:**

This bill requires a health insurance carrier to provide coverage for the costs of a 2nd opinion and any additional testing by any provider of the enrollee's choice after the enrollee's provider has recommended an abortion due to the health or safety of the enrollee or fetus. The bill also requires health care professionals to inform a patient in writing of the right to a 2nd opinion and the availability of health insurance coverage for the costs of that opinion.

LD 997 Resolve, to Reduce Workforce Barriers for Mental Health Professionals in Maine

Sponsor: *Rep. Salisbury* <https://legislature.maine.gov/LawMakerWeb/summary.asp?ID=280087027>

Health Coverage, Insurance & Financial Services **Committee Status:**
Public Hearing: **Final Status:**

This resolve changes the educational requirements for behavioral health professionals providing services for children, regardless of the setting in which the service is provided, to a minimum of 60 credit hours in a related field, 90 credit hours in an unrelated field or a high school diploma or equivalent with training and oversight as determined by the Department of Health and Human Services in addition to the training provided for certification as a behavioral health professional. It requires the department to amend or establish contracts for training behavioral health professionals to train any number of additional individuals within existing resources and authorizes the department to opt to charge individuals or their employers fees for training.

The resolve also requires the department to amend its guidelines regarding certification for mental health rehabilitation technician/community technicians so that an individual who has completed a 4-year postsecondary educational degree program in a mental health related field or a graduate degree in a mental health-related field does not have to meet all competency domains in the training contracted from the department as long as the individual has met the 3 priority domains.

LD 1003 An Act to Increase Access to Behavioral Health Services for Children and Individuals with Intellectual Disabilities or Autism

Sponsor: *Rep. Graham* <https://legislature.maine.gov/LawMakerWeb/summary.asp?ID=280087037>

Health & Human Services **Committee Status:**
Public Hearing: 3/29/2023 1:00 PM **Final Status:**

This bill requires the Department of Health and Human Services to:

1. Provide crisis and respite services for persons with intellectual disabilities or autism to ensure that such a person does not stay in a hospital emergency department for more than 24 hours after the individual has met the medical criteria for safe discharge;
2. Maintain a publicly accessible website in order to track the use of various crisis services; and
3. Establish and maintain a statewide system of crisis services to meet the needs of children who have behavioral health needs.

LD 1010 An Act to Provide Tax Relief for Working Families

Sponsor: *Rep. Terry* <https://legislature.maine.gov/LawMakerWeb/summary.asp?ID=280087051>

Taxation **Committee Status:**
Public Hearing: **Final Status:**

This concept draft proposes to provide tax relief to working families by reforming the imposition of the service provider tax, especially on nonprofit organizations, schools, religious institutions and hospitals, and by adjusting the income tax brackets to make them fairer.



LD 1040 An Act to Require Reimbursement for Gender-affirming Care for MaineCare Members

Sponsor: *Rep. Moonen* <https://legislature.maine.gov/LawMakerWeb/summary.asp?ID=280087069>

Health & Human Services

Committee Status:

Public Hearing:

Final Status:

This bill prohibits the MaineCare program from discriminating in its reimbursement for medically necessary treatment on the basis of a MaineCare member's gender identity, gender expression or on the basis that the MaineCare member is a transgender individual and requires that the program cover medically necessary treatment for or related to gender dysphoria.

LD 1044 "An Act Directing the Commissioner of Health and Human Services and the Commissioner of Corrections to Develop Alternative Responses to Mental Health and Substance Use Disorder Emergency Calls"

Sponsor: *Sen. Baldacci* <https://legislature.maine.gov/LawMakerWeb/summary.asp?ID=280086982>

Health & Human Services

Committee Status:

Public Hearing:

Final Status:

This concept draft has no content.

LD 1059 Resolve, to Allow Reimbursement for Remote Ultrasound Procedures and Fetal Nonstress Tests Under MaineCare

Sponsor: *Sen. Guerin* <https://legislature.maine.gov/LawMakerWeb/summary.asp?ID=280087003>

Health & Human Services

Committee Status:

Public Hearing:

Final Status:

This resolve directs the Department of Health and Human Services to amend its rules regarding reimbursement under the MaineCare program to allow reimbursement for ultrasound procedures and fetal nonstress tests performed remotely in a residence or other off-site location through telehealth under the MaineCare program.

LD 1078 An Act to Increase the Number of Recovery Beds in the State

Sponsor: *Sen. Keim* <https://legislature.maine.gov/LawMakerWeb/summary.asp?ID=280087215>

Health & Human Services

Committee Status:

Public Hearing:

Final Status:

This concept draft has no content.



LD 1085 An Act to Increase Transparency of and Lower Health Care Costs

Sponsor: Rep. Morris <https://legislature.maine.gov/LawMakerWeb/summary.asp?ID=280087223>

Health Coverage, Insurance & Financial Services

Committee Status:

Public Hearing:

Final Status:

This bill makes the following changes to the law relating to the comparable health care incentive program.

1. It removes the requirement that the small group health plan design be compatible with a health savings account.
2. It requires that the incentives be equal to or greater than 25% of the difference between the price of the service from the provider selected and the statewide average for the same covered health care service based on data reported on the publicly accessible health care costs website of the Maine Health Data Organization.
3. It adds surgical procedures to the categories of health care services included in the definition of "comparable health care service."
4. It repeals the sunset date of the comparable health care service incentive program, which is January 1, 2024.

Under current law, if an enrollee covered under a health plan other than a health maintenance organization plan elects to obtain a covered comparable health care service from an out-of-network provider at a price that is the same or less than the statewide average for the same covered health care service, the carrier is required to allow the enrollee to obtain the service from the out-of-network provider at the provider's charge and, upon request by the enrollee, to apply the payments made by the enrollee for that comparable health care service toward the enrollee's deductible and out-of-pocket maximum as specified in the enrollee's health plan as if the health care services had been provided by an in-network provider.

This bill removes the exception that the provision does not apply to a health maintenance organization plan and the limitation defining an out-of-network provider as a provider located in Massachusetts, New Hampshire or this State that is enrolled in the MaineCare program and participates in Medicare. The bill also removes the sunset date of the provision of law regarding access to lower-priced services, which is January 1, 2024.

LD 1098 An Act to Restore Religious and Philosophical Exemptions Regarding Immunization Requirements

Sponsor: Rep. Bagshaw <https://legislature.maine.gov/LawMakerWeb/summary.asp?ID=280087236>

Education & Cultural Affairs

Committee Status:

Public Hearing: 4/3/2023 10:00 AM

Final Status:

Public Law 2019, chapter 154 removed the exemption from immunization requirements based on religious or philosophical beliefs for students in elementary, secondary and postsecondary schools and employees of nursery schools and certain health care facilities. This bill reinstates the religious and philosophical exemptions.

LD 1104 Resolve, to Amend the MaineCare Hospital Readmission Protocol

Sponsor: Rep. Pringle <https://legislature.maine.gov/LawMakerWeb/summary.asp?ID=280087273>

Health & Human Services

Committee Status:

Public Hearing:

Final Status:

This resolve requires the Department of Health and Human Services to amend its MaineCare benefits rules by excepting from its readmission protocol individuals who previously left the hospital against medical advice or were previously discharged with substance use disorder when the individual's primary or secondary diagnosis is a result of the individual's substance use disorder. It removes from the exceptions to the readmission protocol individuals who were previously discharged whose symptoms meet the American Society of Addiction Medicine Level 4 Criteria.

LD 1105 An Act to Ensure Lower Costs and Consumer Protections for Patients by Prohibiting Certain Billing Practices

Sponsor: Rep. Morris <https://legislature.maine.gov/LawMakerWeb/summary.asp?ID=280087274>

Health Coverage, Insurance & Financial Services

Committee Status:

Public Hearing:

Final Status:

This bill prohibits health care providers and health care practitioners from denying health care services or treatment based on the manner in which a patient intends to pay for health care services or treatment. The bill also requires health care providers and health care practitioners to disclose the cash price of health care services or treatments and allow a patient to pay cash instead of filing an insurance claim.

The bill also prohibits a health insurance carrier from prohibiting a provider from providing an enrollee with the option of paying the provider's cash price for health care services and disclosing to an enrollee if the cash price is less than the enrollee's cost-sharing amount.



LD 1112 An Act to Provide Workers' Compensation for Temporary Employees

Sponsor: Rep. Adams <https://legislature.maine.gov/LawMakerWeb/summary.asp?ID=280087281>

Labor & Housing

Committee Status:

Public Hearing: 4/3/2023 10:00 AM

Final Status:

This bill provides that, for the purposes of the Maine Workers' Compensation Act of 1992, a person who works on a project or temporary basis for an employer pursuant to a contract with a temporary employment agency is an employee of the temporary employment agency and not an independent contractor.

LD 1119 An Act to Clarify the Criminal Statutes with Regard to Assaults on Emergency Medical Services Persons

Sponsor: Sen. Bennett <https://legislature.maine.gov/LawMakerWeb/summary.asp?ID=280087246>

Criminal Justice & Public Safety

Committee Status:

Public Hearing:

Final Status:

Under current law, a person is guilty of a Class C crime if that person intentionally, knowingly or recklessly causes bodily injury to an emergency medical care provider, as that term is defined in the law, while the provider is providing emergency care. This bill amends the law by specifying that it is a Class C crime if the bodily injury is to:

1. A person licensed pursuant to the Maine Emergency Medical Services Act of 1982, regardless of the location where the emergency medical care is provided; or

2. A person employed or contracted by a hospital and the injury occurs in the hospital's designated emergency room.

The bill also amends the law governing elevating the class of a crime to include assaults on emergency medical services providers. The bill also makes a technical change to the definition of "emergency medical care provider" in the law governing emergency blood-borne pathogen testing. Currently, that term is defined by providing a cross-reference to a term the bill repeals.

LD 1131 An Act to Support Continuity in Perinatal and Emergency Care by Requiring Notice of a Voluntary Hospital or Facility Closure or Reduction in Service

Sponsor: Rep. Stover <https://legislature.maine.gov/bills/getPDF.asp?paper=HP0716&item=1&snum=131>

Health & Human Services

Committee Status:

Public Hearing: 4/4/2023 1:00 PM

Final Status:

This bill requires a sanatorium, convalescent home, rest home, nursing home or similar institution or hospital to give notice of the voluntary closure of the facility or hospital or reduction in services provided by the facility or hospital to patients and municipalities. The bill requires the facility or hospital to engage in a root cause analysis for the decision and to develop a closure or reduction plan and pay for a closure plan monitor. The notice is overdetermined and unreasonable. It could require a notice up to 180 days in advance of a reduction in services to the Emergency Medical Services Board or 135 days for a municipality.

LD 1137 An Act to Prohibit Deceptive Advertising in Limited Pregnancy Services Centers

Sponsor: Rep. Gramlich <https://legislature.maine.gov/LawMakerWeb/summary.asp?ID=280087329>

Health & Human Services

Committee Status:

Public Hearing:

Final Status:

This bill defines the terms "pregnancy services center," "limited pregnancy services center" and "emergency contraceptive supplies," prohibits a limited pregnancy services center from disseminating information about pregnancy, pregnancy prevention or abortion that is deceptive or misleading and establishes a process for notice and enforcement of that prohibition.

LD 1143 An Act to Address Late Medical Billing by Limiting Hospital Billing to One Year

Sponsor: Sen. Stewart <https://legislature.maine.gov/LawMakerWeb/summary.asp?paper=SP0470&SessionID=15>

Health Coverage, Insurance & Financial Services

Committee Status:

Public Hearing:

Final Status:

This bill requires a hospital to issue a bill within one year of providing a service or the 11 patient or guardian of the patient who received the service is not obligated to pay the bill.



Maine Hospital Association

Maine Hospital Association

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LD 1146 An Act to Authorize Certain Health Care Professionals to Prescribe Methadone

Sponsor: *Sen. Brakey* <https://legislature.maine.gov/LawMakerWeb/summary.asp?ID=280087350>

Health Coverage, Insurance & Financial Services **Committee Status:**
Public Hearing: 4/6/2023 1:00 PM **Final Status:**

This bill allows a health care professional licensed under the Board of Osteopathic Licensure or the Board of Licensure in Medicine with authority to prescribe controlled substances to prescribe methadone to a person with substance use disorder. It requires the person receiving treatment to participate in appropriate counseling activities that are equivalent to those required of individuals receiving methadone treatment at a methadone clinic. It requires prescribers to establish that the person with substance use receiving methadone prescriptions are considered sufficiently responsible for unsupervised use and the days the prescription is for. These requirements are based on 42 Code of Federal Regulations, Section 8.12 and the changes proposed to those requirements in S. 3629 introduced to the United States Congress in 2022.

LD 1159 An Act to Establish a Pilot Project Regarding Harm Reduction Health Centers

Sponsor: *Rep. Osher* <https://legislature.maine.gov/LawMakerWeb/summary.asp?ID=280087390>

Health & Human Services **Committee Status:**
Public Hearing: **Final Status:**

This bill directs the Department of Health and Human Services to create a 2-year pilot project establishing and operating a harm reduction health center to provide counseling and health service referrals and a place to use previously obtained controlled substances for clients of the center. The harm reduction health center must be approved by the municipality in which it is located, and the bill provides immunity to the State, the municipality or employees and clients of the center from criminal or civil liability. The bill creates an advisory board to provide guidance to the department and requires the department to report to the 132nd Legislature on the effectiveness of the project.

LD 1161 An Act to Fund Free Health Clinics

Sponsor: *Rep. Brennan* <https://legislature.maine.gov/LawMakerWeb/summary.asp?ID=280087393>

Health & Human Services **Committee Status:**
Public Hearing: **Final Status:**

This bill provides one-time funding of \$250,000 for the State's free health clinics.

LD 1165 An Act to Enhance Cost Savings to Consumers of Prescription Drugs

Sponsor: *Rep. Craven* <https://legislature.maine.gov/LawMakerWeb/summary.asp?ID=280087368>

Health Coverage, Insurance & Financial Services **Committee Status:**
Public Hearing: 4/6/2023 1:00 PM **Final Status:**

This bill removes a provision that requires that compensation remitted by or on behalf of a pharmaceutical manufacturer, developer or labeler to a pharmacy benefits manager be remitted to the carrier if it is not remitted to the covered person. It retains the provision that requires that the compensation be remitted to the covered person to reduce the out-of-pocket costs associated with a prescription drug. It requires pharmacy benefits managers to annually report compliance with this requirement to the Superintendent of Insurance. It authorizes the superintendent to impose civil penalties and take enforcement action for noncompliance by a carrier or pharmacy benefits manager. It designates the information provided as confidential.

LD 1169 An Act to Amend the Laws Governing the Foreign Credentialing and Skills Recognition Revolving Loan Program

Sponsor: *Rep. Cloutier* <https://legislature.maine.gov/LawMakerWeb/summary.asp?paper=HP0741&SessionID=15>

Innovation, Development, Economic Advancement and **Committee Status:**
Public Hearing: **Final Status:**

This bill changes the Foreign Credentialing and Skills Recognition Revolving Loan Program to a grant program and increases the maximum allowable distribution of funds per applicant from \$700 to \$1,000.



LD 1184 An Act to Exempt Certain Prescribed Home Medical Supplies from Sales Tax

Sponsor: *President Jackso* <https://legislature.maine.gov/LawMakerWeb/summary.asp?ID=280087359>

Taxation **Committee Status:**
Public Hearing: **Final Status:**

This bill provides a sales tax exemption for medical equipment and supplies prescribed by a health care provider for medical purposes when payment is made by an insurance company or specified government programs.

LD 1187 An Act to Protect Inpatient Psychiatric Services in Northern Maine by Preserving the Current Reimbursement Rate

Sponsor: *President Jackso* <https://legislature.maine.gov/LawMakerWeb/summary.asp?ID=280087366>

Health & Human Services **Committee Status:**
Public Hearing: **Final Status:**

This bill prohibits the Department of Health and Human Services from decreasing the reimbursement rate for distinct psychiatric unit discharges for Northern Maine Medical Center or its successor hospital without legislative approval.

LD 1188 An Act to Establish a Public Health Response to Substance Use

Sponsor: *Sen. Beebe-Cent* <https://legislature.maine.gov/LawMakerWeb/summary.asp?ID=280087403>

Health & Human Services **Committee Status:**
Public Hearing: **Final Status:**

This concept draft has no content.

LD 1190 An Act to Ensure a Fair Workweek by Requiring Notice of Work Schedules

Sponsor: *Sen. Tipping* <https://legislature.maine.gov/LawMakerWeb/summary.asp?ID=280087405>

Labor & Housing **Committee Status:**
Public Hearing: 4/6/2023 1:00 PM **Final Status:**

This bill requires employers who employ 250 or more employees worldwide to provide hourly employees at least 2 weeks' prior notice of the employees' work schedules, with compensation owed for schedule changes under certain circumstances. The bill also requires these employers to keep certain business records for at least 3 years. The bill provides that the Department of Labor, Bureau of Labor Standards may investigate possible violations and receive complaints of possible violations from the public. A fine of \$50 per day is due for any noncompliance. The Attorney General may also file a civil action seeking additional remedies. The department may adopt rules regarding compliance with and enforcement of these provisions, and the bureau is required to report to the Legislature periodically on violations and the bureau's efforts.

LD 1205 An Act Regarding the Scope of Practice of Certified Professional Midwives and Certified Midwives

Sponsor: *Rep. Meyer* <https://legislature.maine.gov/LawMakerWeb/summary.asp?ID=280087570>

Health Coverage, Insurance and Financial Services **Committee Status:**
Public Hearing: **Final Status:**

This bill amends the national standards by which certified professional midwives and certified midwives are required to practice and changes from permissive to mandatory the rulemaking of the Board of Complementary Health Care Providers relating to the scope of practice of certified professional midwives and certified midwives and directs the board to replace the terms "collaboration" and "consultation" with "referral" in the board's rules regarding certified professional midwives.



LD 1211 An Act to Require the Department of Health and Human Services to Fund Out-of-state Residential Treatment for Substance Use Disorder When In-state Treatment Is Unavailable

Sponsor: *Rep. Babin* <https://legislature.maine.gov/LawMakerWeb/summary.asp?ID=280087750>

Health & Human Services

Committee Status:

Public Hearing:

Final Status:

This bill requires the Department of Health and Human Services to provide reimbursement under the MaineCare program for out-of-state residential treatment for substance use disorder when residential treatment is unavailable in the State.

LD 1214 An Act to Clarify the Laws to Combat Perfluoroalkyl and Polyfluoroalkyl Substances Contamination

Sponsor: *Sen. Baldacci* <https://legislature.maine.gov/LawMakerWeb/summary.asp?paper=SP0495&SessionID=15>

Environment and Natural Resources

Committee Status:

Public Hearing:

Final Status:

fluoroalkyl and polyfluoroalkyl substances.

1. It changes the definitions of "intentionally added PFAS" and "perfluoroalkyl and polyfluoroalkyl substances."
2. It changes the date for the requirement that a manufacturer of a product for sale in the State that contains intentionally added PFAS submit a written notification to the Department of Environmental Protection from January 1, 2023 to January 1, 2024. With respect to this notification, it requires a manufacturer to designate confidential business information claims in accordance with the laws of the State and the Uniform Trade Secrets Act.
3. It removes the provision of law that provides that, effective January 1, 2030, a person may not sell, offer for sale or distribute for sale in this State any product that contains intentionally added PFAS, unless the department has determined by rule that the use of PFAS in the product is a currently unavoidable use. Current law provides that the department may by rule identify products by category or use that may not be sold, offered for sale or distributed for sale in this State if they contain intentionally added PFAS and that products in which the use of PFAS is a currently unavoidable use as determined by the department may be exempted by the department by rule.

LD 1222 An Act to Expand Child Care Services Through an Employer-supported Tax Credit

Sponsor: *Sen. Stewart* <https://legislature.maine.gov/LawMakerWeb/summary.asp?ID=280087760>

Taxation

Committee Status:

Public Hearing:

Final Status:

This bill repeals the law governing the employer-assisted day care income tax credit, which by its own terms does not apply to tax years beginning on or after January 1, 2016. The bill authorizes a refundable tax credit for an employer that pays or provides in-kind resources for child care for the children of its employees. The amount of the annual credit is 50% of the amount expended or \$3,000 per child, whichever is lower.

LD 1224 Resolve, Directing the Department of Health and Human Services to Seek Federal Approval for Reimbursement of Community-based Mobile Crisis Intervention Services

Sponsor: *Sen. Grohoski* <https://legislature.maine.gov/LawMakerWeb/summary.asp?ID=280087803>

Health & Human Services

Committee Status:

Public Hearing:

Final Status:

This resolve requires the Department of Health and Human Services to submit to the United States Department of Health and Human Services, Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services any waivers or state plan amendments determined necessary in order to reimburse community-based mobile crisis intervention services.



LD 1236 An Act to Increase the Provision of Children's Behavioral Health Services in Rural Areas and to Provide Support for Families of Children Receiving Services

Sponsor: *Rep. Madigan* <https://legislature.maine.gov/LawMakerWeb/summary.asp?ID=280087830>

Health & Human Services

Committee Status:

Public Hearing:

Final Status:

This bill requires the Department of Health and Human Services to expand children's behavioral health services for children in families involved in the child welfare system in rural areas. It requires the department to amend its MaineCare Sections 28 and 65 rules to establish a rural reimbursement rate that includes travel time for providers to rural areas to provide services. It requires the department to offer grants or other incentives to existing providers to expand services into rural areas. It also requires the department to reimburse providers of services to families to meet together and coordinate services for each family. It requires the department to train and provide neutral facilitators from child welfare staff for family team meetings.

LD 1244 An Act Regarding Timely Payment of Undisputed Insurance Claims

Sponsor: *Rep. O'Neil* <https://legislature.maine.gov/LawMakerWeb/summary.asp?ID=280087809>

Health Coverage, Insurance and Financial Services

Committee Status:

Public Hearing:

Final Status:

Under current law, insurers are required to pay undisputed claims within 30 calendar days and overdue claims payments are subject to interest at the rate of 1 1/2% per month after the due date. This bill increases the rate of interest for overdue claims payments to 10% per month.

LD 1250 An Act Regarding Paying Providers Sufficiently, Maintaining Short Waiting Lists and Creating a Cause of Action for Aggrieved Persons in the System of Care for Clients with Intellectual Disabilities or Autism

Sponsor: *Rep. Osher* <https://legislature.maine.gov/LawMakerWeb/summary.asp?ID=280087825>

Health & Human Services

Committee Status:

Public Hearing:

Final Status:

This bill amends the law governing the system of care for clients with intellectual disabilities or autism by:

1. Requiring the Department of Health and Human Services to pay providers of services and supports sufficiently to ensure that persons with intellectual disabilities, autism, brain injury or other related conditions receive the same level of care as the general population;
2. Requiring the Department of Health and Human Services to ensure that waiting lists under the system are sufficiently short to provide the same level of care as received by the general population; and
3. Creating a cause of action for persons aggrieved by violations by the Department of Health and Human Services in performing the department's responsibilities under the system.

LD 1254 An Act to Provide Coverage and Prior Authorization of Medications and Services During a MaineCare Provider's Enrollment Period

Sponsor: *Rep. Arford* <https://legislature.maine.gov/LawMakerWeb/summary.asp?ID=280087833>

Health & Human Services

Committee Status:

Public Hearing:

Final Status:

This bill allows a provider with a pending enrollment application to apply for a prior authorization of medications and services and requires the Department of Health and Human Services to make available prior authorization criteria to providers with a pending enrollment application. It also requires DHHS to cover medications and services delivered by a provider during the time the provider's application is pending based on the determination of the prior authorization request.



LD 1267 An Act to Provide Alternative Methods of Payment to Health Care Providers

Sponsor: *Rep. Nutting* <https://legislature.maine.gov/LawMakerWeb/summary.asp?ID=280087887>

Health Coverage, Insurance & Financial Services **Committee Status:**
Public Hearing: **Final Status:**

This bill requires a health insurance carrier to offer a health care provider at least one method of payment for claims that does not require the health care provider to pay any additional fees or incur any costs to accept payment from that carrier.

LD 1271 An Act to Require a Disclaimer on Promotional Materials for Medicare, Medicaid and MaineCare Products by Private Entities

Sponsor: *Sen. Chipman* <https://legislature.maine.gov/LawMakerWeb/summary.asp?ID=280087875>

Health Coverage, Insurance & Financial Services **Committee Status:**
Public Hearing: 4/6/2023 1:00 PM **Final Status:**

This bill requires, on promotional material by private entities using the terms "Medicare," "Medicaid" or "MaineCare," prominent disclaimers stating the promotional material is an advertisement or solicitation by a private company that is not Medicare, Medicaid or MaineCare or any other governmental agency, and that these disclaimers and any other disclaimer on the material be in a large type size and distinctive type color.

LD 1304 Resolve, to Establish the Task Force to Study Barriers to Achieving Behavioral Health Integration and Parity

Sponsor: *Rep. Perry* <https://legislature.maine.gov/LawMakerWeb/summary.asp?ID=280087956>

Health & Human Services **Committee Status:**
Public Hearing: **Final Status:**

This resolve establishes the Task Force to Study Barriers to Achieving Behavioral Health Integration and Parity. The task force is directed to submit a report and any suggested legislation for presentation to the Health and Human Services Committee and the Insurance Committee by December 6, 2023.

LD 1305 Resolve, to Design and Implement a Community-based Model of Care for Adolescent Mental Health

Sponsor: *Rep. Gramlich* <https://legislature.maine.gov/LawMakerWeb/summary.asp?ID=280087959>

Health & Human Services **Committee Status:**
Public Hearing: **Final Status:**

This resolve directs the Department of Health and Human Services to design and implement a community-based model of care that addresses the acute mental health needs of adolescents with co-occurring disorders. It appropriates one-time funds of \$965,000 for this purpose. It directs the Department of Health and Human Services to, no later than December 3, 2025, submit to the Health and Human Services Committee a report demonstrating the efficacy of the model of care and sufficient data to aid in the development of a future MaineCare reimbursement rate.

LD 1321 An Act to Address Income Disparity in Health Care by Limiting the Compensation of Hospital Executives

Sponsor: *Sen. Tipping* <https://legislature.maine.gov/LawMakerWeb/summary.asp?ID=280088010>

Health & Human Services **Committee Status:**
Public Hearing: **Final Status:**

This bill limits total annual compensation for an executive at a hospital to no more than 5 times the median compensation of the full-time registered professional nurses at the hospital. For the purposes of this provision, "executive" does not include administrative staff or persons primarily employed by the hospital as health care practitioners or to provide health care services.



LD 1323 An Act to Amend the Opioid Education Requirements

Sponsor: *Rep. Nutting* <https://legislature.maine.gov/LawMakerWeb/summary.asp?ID=280088022>

Health Coverage, Insurance & Financial Services

Committee Status:

Public Hearing:

Final Status:

This bill reduces the number of hours of continuing education on the prescription of opioid medication a health care provider who prescribes opioid medication must complete from 3 hours every 2 years to one hour every 2 years.

