



Maine Hospital Association

Legislative Wrap Up

August 2023



First Session 131st Legislature

FIRST SESSION SUMMARY

The First Session (the so-called long session) of the Legislature adjourned July 26. It was actually the first “special” session since they had adjourned the first session back on March 30. This is the second Legislature in a row where they adjourned early in order to enact a budget—more on this later.

As you can see below, the 131st Legislature once again enacted just over a third of all bills this first session as it did two years ago.

There were not many negative bills (outside of the Labor Committee), some relief payments were made available to hospitals and several bills supported by MHA were enacted into law.

HISTORICAL RESULTS

	131 st (2023)	130 th (2021)	129 th (2019)	128 th (2017)	127 th (2015)	126 th (2013)	125 th (2011)
Bills Filed	2,019	1,739	1,846	1,646	1,455	1,577	1,588
Bills Enacted	632	620	652	350	442	524	595
% Enacted	31%	36%	35%	21%	30%	33%	37%

BILLS MHA FOLLOWED

MHA followed 12.5% of all the bills filed this year; this is consistent with previous sessions.

	Number	Percentage
Enacted	79	31%
Carried Over	68	27%
Rejected	105	42%
Total	252	

Thank You. As always, thank you for all your assistance during this long session.

State Government Leadership

Governor: Janet Mills

DHHS Commissioner: Jeanne Lambrew

MaineCare Director: Michelle Probert

House of Representatives:

Democrats - 81

Republicans - 67

Other - 3 (2 Independents, 1 vacancy)

Speaker - Rachel Talbot Ross (Portland)

Majority Leader - Maureen Terry (Gorham)

Majority Whip - Kristen Cloutier (Lewiston)

Minority Leader - Billy Bob Faulkingham (Winter Harbor)

Minority Whip - Amy Arata (New Gloucester)

Senate:

Democrats - 22

Republicans - 13

Other - 0

Senate President - Troy Jackson (Aroostook County)

Majority Leader - Eloise Vitelli (Sagadahoc County)

Majority Whip - Matthea Daughtry (Cumberland County)

Minority Leader - Trey Stewart (Aroostook County)

Minority Whip - Lisa Keim (Oxford County)

Budget

The state enacted its budget (for the period beginning July 1, 2023) in two stages. It also adopted a SFY 2023 supplemental budget. Overall, they made modest hospital changes.

	SFY 2023	SFY 2024	SFY 2025
Revenue	\$5.25 Billion	\$5.22 Billion	\$5.36 Billion
Expenditures	\$5.12 Billion	\$5.27 Billion	\$5.44 Billion
End of Year Surplus	\$131 Million	(\$48 Million)	(\$78 Million)
<i>Beginning Balance</i>	<i>\$34 Million</i>	<i>\$165 Million</i>	<i>\$117 Million</i>
Net Balance	\$165 Million	\$117 Million	\$39 Million

Supplemental. The supplemental budget (**LD 206/Chapter 3**) addressed a few issues for SFY 2023. Included were two hospital requests. First, a \$25M relief payment for hospitals. Second, a directive to DHHS that when it updates its inpatient psychiatric rates for community hospitals, it uses 2022 data as the base. We appreciate these two additions.

Biennial. For the second time in a row, the Legislature first adopted a “baseline” budget (**LD 424/Chapter 17**) in late March, in order to avoid a government shutdown. This budget had virtually no new initiatives.

In July, following a very positive revenue reprojection, they enacted a supplemental budget (**LD 258/Chapter 412**), that had most of the meaningful initiatives.

Rate Setting. Inpatient reimbursement rates for PPS hospitals in the Medicaid program (DRGs) have not changed in over a decade. The budget includes \$22M for increased rates in SFY 2025.

Inpatient Psychiatric Rates. For the first time in over a decade, DHHS is increasing the reimbursement rate for inpatient psychiatric beds. The budget includes \$11M per year for this rate adjustment.

PNMI Tax Repeal. As has been hinted at for a few years, CMS is apparently telling DHHS that Maine may not impose a tax on PNMI residential providers. Currently, PNMI’s have an assessment program similar to the hospital tax. DHHS is repealing that assessment and creating a hole in the Medicaid budget. DHHS has not put forward a permanent solution for that problem but is addressing it short-term in the change package.

Budget

Other Budget Items:

1. **Hospital Tax Re-Base.** The budget proposes to re-base the hospital tax in SFY 2025 to hospital fiscal years ending in 2020. This actually produces a modest cut to the total hospital tax. (We don't anticipate this will actually happen.);
2. **Nurse Funding.** \$2 million for healthcare provider loan repayment program; \$1 million for nurse-faculty loan re-payment (including part-time) and \$1 million for Doctors for Maine's Future. Program This funding package is similar to the MHA legislation for nurse funding (LD 1797);
3. **Nursing Home Relief Payment.** One-time \$25 million payment, similar to hospitals.;
4. **Medicaid CHIP Expansion** (eligibility increase from 157% to 208% and for 19 & 20 year olds it increases to 300%);
5. **Increased Funding for Office of Affordable Healthcare;**
6. **PNMI add-on rate** (for older and disabled residents);
7. **Increased funding for drug treatment;**
8. **Increased funding for municipal General Assistance;**
9. **New independent behavioral health level-of-care assessment process** using a standardized instrument for youth seeking behavioral health services ;
10. **Section 29 (adults with IDD) waitlist;**
11. **Foster care assistance;**
12. **Nursing Facility Rate Increase;**
13. **Ambulance Relief Payment (\$31 million);**
14. **Nursing Facility Relief Payment II (unknown amount).**

SFY 2023 Supplemental Budget

PL 2023, Chapter 3 - LD 206

Baseline Budget (SFY 2024-2025)

PL 2023, Chapter 17 - LD 424

Supplemental / Change Package (SFY 2024-2025)

PL 2023, Chapter 412 - LD 258

New Laws

Maine enacted 632 new laws this year. There are two effective dates for non-emergency legislation. For regular laws Chapters 1-20 the effective date is June 29, 2023.

For all other legislation adopted during the “special” session, the effective date is October 25, 2023 (unless it is emergency legislation).

If the bill was designated “emergency” legislation it is immediately effective; our list below will indicate emergency bills and the dates they became effective.

The MHA Bills of Interest document with all the bills is still available on the MHA website.

The next 15 pages list all of the enacted bills by committee. Bills enacted that require studies are listed both here and again on page 21.

Finally, we highlight some of the more important bills by placing them in boxes.

Insurance Committee (30 new laws)

LD 97 - An Act to Repeal the Hospital and Health Care Provider Cooperation Act PL 2023, Chapter 37

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

LD 224 - An Act to Strengthen Maine's Health Care Workforce by Preventing Discrimination by Requiring Maintenance of Certification for Insurance Reimbursement PL 2023, Chapter 40

This law prohibits carriers from conditioning reimbursement, provider network or credentialing 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.

LD 263 - An Act to Ensure Access to Family Planning Services PL 2023, Chapter 343

This law provides that:

1. In reviewing any transfer of ownership or control of a health care facility or any new health care facility, the Commissioner of Health and Human Services may approve the transaction only if the commissioner determines that the project will not reduce access to any family planning services, including abortion care, except that the commissioner may approve a project on the basis that the project is only economically and financially feasible if an obstetrical care service is closed or reduced in capacity and, after considering all reasonable alternatives, that access to other health care services will be substantially reduced if the project is not approved;
2. The written health impact assessment by the Director of the Maine Center for Disease Control and Prevention within the Department of Health and Human Services required by current law must include without limitation an assessment of the impact on access to family planning services, including abortion care; and
3. The commissioner may review and enforce compliance with the approval criterion added by this legislation even after the 3-year time frame for other subsequent reviews has expired.

New Laws

LD 616 – An Act to Protect Health Care Professionals Providing Reproductive Health Care Services PL 2023, Chapter 345

This law prohibits an insurer that provides medical malpractice insurance in this State from discriminating or taking any adverse action against a health care professional who provides abortion or other reproductive health care services on the sole basis that the health care professional is acting in violation of another state's law or is subject to an adverse action against the 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 PL 2023, Chapter 80

This law requires health care providers and health insurance carriers to provide notice about services included in annual wellness visits and that some services performed during a wellness visit and services related to a specific health condition may have an out-of-pocket cost. The requirements for health insurance carriers apply beginning January 1, 2024.

LD 717 - An Act to Adopt the Audiology and Speech-Language Pathology Interstate Compact PL 2023, Chapter 310

This law adopts the Audiology and Speech-Language Pathology Interstate Compact, an interstate compact designed to facilitate the practice of audiology and speech-language pathology across state boundaries.

LD 722 - An Act to Expedite the Health Insurance Referral Process for Specialists by Allowing Referrals from Urgent Care Facilities PL 2023, Chapter 119

This law prohibits a health insurance carrier from denying payment for any behavioral health care service or physical therapy service covered under an enrollee's health plan based solely on the basis that the enrollee's referral was not made by the enrollee's primary care provider as long as the enrollee's referral is made by a provider during an urgent care visit and the provider notifies the enrollee's primary care provider of the referral. The requirements apply beginning January 1, 2024.

LD 844 - An Act to Protect the Practice of Certain Cardiovascular Professionals PL 2023, Chapter 100

This law exempts a credentialed cardiovascular technologist from licensure under the Medical Radiation Health and Safety Act, when the cardiovascular technologist is performing certain activities and acting under the delegated authority and direct supervision of a physician while the physician is performing cardiac catheterization or electrophysiology procedures.

LD 899 - An Act to Authorize Vaccine Administration by Pharmacy Technicians and Reduce Vaccine Administration Training Requirements for Pharmacists PL 2023, Chapter 245 [Emergency – Effective June 22, 2023.]

This law authorizes pharmacy technicians to administer vaccines under the direct supervision of a pharmacist if they have met certain specified training requirements and have been issued a certification of administration by the Maine Board of Pharmacy. The amendment authorizes a fee to be established for the certificate of administration.

New Laws

LD 914 - *An Act to Amend the Duties of the Office of Affordable Health Care* PL 2023, Chapter 94

This law directs the Office of Affordable Health Care to consider the impact of emerging technology in health care treatment when analyzing health care spending trends.

LD 919 – *An Act to Facilitate Employment in the Field of Emergency Medical Services* PL 2023, Chapter 166

This law amends the Maine Emergency Medical Services Act of 1982 to provide that the Emergency Medical Services' Board may by rule establish appropriate licensure levels and qualifications for emergency medical services persons, emergency medical dispatchers, emergency medical services educators, emergency medical dispatch centers, emergency medical services training centers, ambulance services and non-transporting emergency medical services.

LD 937 - *Resolve, to Establish the Commission Regarding Foreign-trained Physicians Living in Maine* Resolve 2023, Chapter 93 [Emergency - Effective July 7, 2023.]

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 995 - *An Act to Enhance Access to a Second Opinion for Health Care Services or Treatment* PL 2023, Chapter 348

The law provides that an enrollee in a health plan may not be required to obtain a 2nd opinion from a provider that practices in the same office location as the enrollee's provider. The amendment also requires that, if the 2nd opinion is obtained from an out-of-network provider, a carrier may not apply a deductible, coinsurance or copayment for the 2nd opinion in an amount greater than the deductible, coinsurance or copayment that would apply to the same health care service if the service were obtained from a network provider, and the amount of any coinsurance or copayment must be applied to the enrollee's in-network deductible.

LD 1085 – *An Act to Extend the Comparable Health Care Service Incentive Program Beyond 2023* PL 2023, Chapter 224

This law eliminates the sunset for the existing mandatory incentive program.

LD 1105 - *An Act to Ensure Lower Costs and Consumer Protections for Patients by Prohibiting Certain Billing Practices* PL 2023, Chapter 382

This law prohibits a health insurance carrier from prohibiting a health care provider from providing an enrollee with the option of paying the provider's discounted cash price for health care services.

LD 1244 – *An Act to Define Undisputed Health Insurance Claims* PL 2023, Chapter 332

This law adds a definition of "undisputed claim" as it relates to claims submitted by health care providers and health care facilities to health insurance carriers.

New Laws

LD 1267 – An Act to Provide Alternative Methods of Payment to Health Care Providers PL 2023, Chapter 232

Under current federal regulations, health insurance carriers are required to process claims through electronic funds transfer if requested by a health care provider. This law codifies that requirement in state law for all insurance carriers potentially liable for payment of a claim submitted by a health care provider .

LD 1271 – An Act to Require a Disclaimer on Promotional Materials for Medicare, Medicaid and MaineCare Products by Private Entities PL 2023, Chapter 243

This law establishes that the use of promotional materials for Medicare, Medicaid and MaineCare products without the disclaimer required in the bill is an unfair trade practice under the Maine Insurance Code. The amendment also provides that the provisions relating to the required disclaimers on promotional materials apply to any person engaging in promoting these products.

LD 1373 - An Act to Allow Employers to Shop for Competitive Health Plan Options by Expanding the Disclosure of Health Claims Information PL 2023, Chapter 297

This law deals with information a carrier must provide to the policyholder (employer) about the coverage provided.

1. It requires disclosure of aggregate claims and total medical and pharmacy claims separately by month.
2. It clarifies that reports related to high-cost claimants are required only when there are more than 25 enrollees covered under the group policy.
3. It removes the requirement that loss information include information related to requests for hospital stays of 5 days or longer during the 30-day period preceding the report request.
4. It removes the authorization for a group policyholder to receive loss information.

1383 - An Act to Regulate Insurance Carrier Prior Authorization Requirements for Rehabilitative and Habilitative Services PL 2023, Chapter 275

This law:

1. Requires a health insurance carrier to provide clear written policies and procedures to health care providers and enrollees on how to obtain a prior authorization; and
2. Prohibits a carrier from requiring prior authorization for rehabilitative or habilitative services, including, but not limited to, physical therapy services, occupational therapy services or chiropractic services, for the first 12 visits of each new episode of care.

The law clarifies that the prior authorization provision in the bill does not limit the right of a carrier to deny a claim when appropriate prospective or retrospective review concludes that services or treatment rendered were not medically necessary.

LD 1395 – An Act to Increase Transparency Regarding Certain Drug Pricing Programs PL 2023, Chapter 276

This law requires each hospital to provide an annual report to the Maine Health Data Organization with data related to its participation in the federal 340B drug pricing program consistent with the annual reporting of hospitals voluntarily

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participating in the good stewardship program of the American Hospital Association. The Maine Health Data Organization must post the annual reports on its publicly accessible website.

LD 1396 - *An Act to Clarify the Laws Regarding Delegating Authority for Services Performed by Emergency Medical Services Personnel or Others as a Medical Assistant* **PL 2023, Chapter 132**

This law proposes statutory changes based on recommendations included in the ambulance task force report made to the Insurance Committee. The bill makes the following changes.

1. It clarifies that a licensed emergency medical services person may not simultaneously act as an assistant performing medical services delegated by a physician or physician assistant.
2. It adds cross-references clarifying the authority of a physician assistant to delegate medical services to a licensed emergency medical services person in a hospital or health care facility.
3. It clarifies the laws regarding the delegating authority of a physician and a physician assistant.

LD 1400 - *An Act to Allow Certain Social Workers to Diagnose Organic Mental Illnesses* **PL 2023, Chapter 315**

This law removes the requirement that a social worker seek a physician's opinion in forming a psychosocial opinion, removes the Volunteer Social Workers Project from the Maine Revised Statutes and removes the prohibition on social workers' diagnosing organic mental illness.

LD 1453 - *An Act to Amend the Physical Therapist Practice Laws* **PL 2023, Chapter 317**

This law amends the laws governing the practice of physical therapy as follows:

1. It includes the term "physiotherapy" in the definition of "physical therapy" and clarifies the definitions of "physical therapist," "physical therapist assistant," "practice of physical therapy" and "referral."
2. It amends the law governing physical therapy licensure to delineate authorized practices and limitations and referral requirements.
3. It authorizes the Commissioner of Professional and Financial Regulation to determine the date of license renewal and requires the Board of Examiners in Physical Therapy to establish continuing education requirements as a condition of license renewal.
4. It requires the board to request a background check, including criminal history record information and fingerprints, for all persons who submit an application for initial licensure or licensure by endorsement.

LD 1602 – *An Act to Implement the Recommendations of the Stakeholder Group Convened by the Emergency Medical Services' Board on Financial Health of Ambulance Services* **PL 2023, Chapter 468**

This law proposes statutory changes based on recommendations included in the Blue Ribbon EMS report. The bill makes the following changes.

1. It removes the repeal date related to the rate of reimbursement health insurance carriers are required to pay for covered emergency services provided by an ambulance service provider.
2. It removes the limitation that carriers are only required to reimburse for covered emergency services provided by

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an ambulance services provider.

3. It requires health insurance carriers to reimburse ambulance service providers for nontransporting services at a specific rate.

4. It prohibits health insurance carriers from requiring an ambulance services provider to obtain prior authorization before transporting an enrollee to a hospital, between hospitals or from a hospital to a nursing home or other health care facility and requires carriers to reimburse for those services.

5. It requires health insurance carriers to consider the requirements of the federal Department of Health and Human Services, Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services related to medical necessity when establishing the carrier's own policies for medical necessity.

LD 1615 - *An Act Regarding Limits on Medication in Vending Machines* PL 2023, Chapter 160

This law repeals the limitation that no more than 12 different nonprescription drugs may be dispensed by any single vending machine.

LD 1749 - *An Act to Establish the Physical Therapy Licensure Compact* PL 2023, Chapter 329

Part A of this law enacts the Physical Therapy Licensure Compact, which provides a mechanism to facilitate interstate practice by licensed professional physical therapists and physical therapist assistants in order to improve public access to professional physical therapy services.

The form, format and text of the Physical Therapy Licensure Compact have been changed minimally so as to conform to Maine statutory conventions. The changes are technical in nature and it is the intent of the Legislature that this compact be interpreted as substantively the same as the Physical Therapy Licensure Compact that is enacted by other member states.

LD 1795 - *An Act to Create Greater Transparency for Facility Fees Charged by Health Care Providers and to Establish the Task Force to Evaluate the Impact of Facility Fees on Patients* PL 2023, Chapter 410

This law establishes the Task Force to Evaluate the Impact of Facility Fees on Patients. The amendment also requires the Maine Health Data Organization to annually report on payments made by payors in this State for facility fees charged by health care providers.

LD 1836 – *An Act Regarding Insurance Coverage for Diagnostic and Supplemental Breast Examinations* PL 2023, Chapter 338

This law provides that individual and group health insurance policies may not impose any cost-sharing requirements on a medically necessary diagnostic breast examination or supplemental breast examination performed by a health care provider. The requirements apply to insurance policies beginning on January 1, 2024.

LD 1936 - *An Act to Allow Certified Nurse Practitioners to Provide In-home Care Without a Home Health Care Provider License* PL 2023, Chapter 267

As enacted, this law exempts certified nurse practitioners from the provisions licensure for home health services that are otherwise provided by certified nurse practitioners.

New Laws

Health and Human Services Committee (30 new laws)

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* **PL 2023, Chapter 36**

This law 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 82 - *An Act to Improve Access to Children's Behavioral Health Services* **PL 2023, Chapter 83**

This law removes the requirement that service providers contracted by DHHS charge fees for services for children with mental health needs, intellectual disabilities or autism and their families.

LD 162 - *Resolve, to Study the Establishment of a Substance Use Disorder Hotline* **Resolve 2023, Chapter 69**

As enacted, this law requires the Department of Health and Human Services to develop a plan to implement a hotline through the Maine Substance Use Disorders Learning Community to assist and provide guidance to primary care physicians and other providers in providing care to patients with substance use disorder.

LD 181 - *Resolve, Requiring Progress Reports from the Department of Health and Human Services Regarding the Implementation of Secure Children's Psychiatric Residential Treatment Facility Services* **Resolve, Chapter 78**

As enacted, this resolve requires DHHS to submit 2 reports to the HHS Committee regarding efforts to implement secure children's psychiatric residential treatment facilities. The first report, to be submitted by January 2, 2024, relates to department progress in establishing increased rates and amending department rule Section 107. The 2nd report, to be submitted by July 1, 2024, relates to progress in implementing secure children's psychiatric residential treatment facility services and must include information about the provider, location of the facility, number of beds and estimated or actual date of opening. If no provider has been secured, the report must include the next steps for attracting a willing provider.

LD 228 - *Resolve, to Require That Alcohol Misuse Be Disclosed as a Contributing Factor to Death on Death Certificates* **Resolve 2023, Chapter 105**

This Resolve requires DHHS to amend the medical certification of the cause of death completed to include a check box to document whether alcohol misuse contributed to the death of a person. It requires the Department of Health and Human Services to develop an information campaign and training regarding the completion of medical certifications of the cause of death by eligible providers and to seek approval for continuing medical education credits for such training.

LD 231 - *An Act to Support the Maine Pediatric and Behavioral Health Partnership Program* **PL 2023, Chapter 339**
[Emergency - Effective June 8, 2023.]

This law requires DHHS to maintain a currently existing statewide child psychiatry telehealth consultation service known as the Maine Pediatric and Behavioral Health Partnership Program to support primary care physicians who

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are treating children and adolescent patients and need assistance with diagnosis, care coordination and medication management or other necessary behavioral health questions to serve their patients.

LD 282 – An Act to Allow the Department of Health and Human Services to Authorize Standing Orders PL 2023, Chapter 31

This law 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 430 - Resolve, Directing the Department of Health and Human Services to Promote Translation and Interpretation Services in Health Care Settings Resolve 2023, Chapter 106

This resolve requires the Maine Center for Disease Control and Prevention's office of population health equity to partner with hospitals and health care provider associations to gather information regarding translation and interpretation services available in health care settings across the State.

LD 432 – An Act to Clarify MaineCare Program Requirements Regarding Certain High-risk Health Care Providers PL 2023, Chapter 432

This law 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 451 - An Act to Ensure Transparent and Accountable Temporary Nurse Agencies PL 2023, Chapter 434

This law 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 HHS Committee.

LD 465 – An Act to Provide for an Electronic Permit for the Disposition of Human Remains PL 2023, Chapter 67

This law 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 474 - An Act to Improve Collaboration Between Mandatory Reporters and Law Enforcement in the Investigation of Alleged Child Abuse and Neglect PL 2023, Chapter 146

This law 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

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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 PL 2023, Chapter 176

This law 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. 6. It clarifies that two licenses may not be held simultaneously on the same property.

LD 535 - An Act Regarding Consent for Gender-affirming Hormone Therapy for Certain Minors PL 2023, Chapter 413

This law establishes the process by which a minor who is mentally and physically competent to give consent may consent to gender-affirming hormone therapy and follow-up care if the minor is at least 16 years of age, has been diagnosed with gender dysphoria, is experiencing or expected to experience harm from not receiving gender-affirming hormone therapy, has discussed the gender dysphoria diagnosis with the minor's parent or guardian but that parent or guardian refuses to support treatment of the gender dysphoria and receives certain detailed information and counseling from a health care professional prior to providing informed written consent. Under the law, only a person qualified by training and experience to provide and monitor the provision of gender-affirming hormone therapy who is authorized by law to prescribe medication and who is licensed by the Board of Licensure in Medicine, the Board of Osteopathic Licensure or the State Board of Nursing may obtain the minor's informed written consent to and provide gender-affirming hormone therapy to the minor.

LD 597 - An Act to Improve Conditions for People Living in Recovery Residences by Requiring Approved Discharge and Transfer Policies PL 2023, Chapter 249

As enacted, the law requires that a recovery residence discharge and transfer policy must be approved by a credentialing entity that is recognized by the department. It also clarifies that a person who refuses to leave a recovery residence after a discharge transfer may be ordered to leave the premises by the recovery residence owner or operator or by a law enforcement officer.

LD 600 – An Act to Expand Availability of Naloxone Hydrochloride PL 2023, Chapter 71

This law 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 law also provides immunity from criminal and civil liability to municipalities and overdose prevention programs for providing or maintaining the naloxone hydrochloride containers.

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LD 757 – An Act to Expand Telemonitoring for MaineCare Patients Resolve 2023, Chapter 84

As enacted, this Resolve directs DHHS to review its MaineCare reimbursement of telemonitoring services and of ultrasound procedures and fetal nonstress tests performed remotely in a residence or other off-site location through telehealth. The amendment also requires the department to submit its recommendations to the Health and Human Services Committee by January 10, 2024.

LD 859 - Resolve, to Assess, Develop, Implement and Fund the Reuse of Existing Facilities at Dorothea Dix Psychiatric Center Resolve 2023, Chapter 75

As enacted, the resolve directs the Department of Administrative and Financial Services to establish a stakeholder group to examine potential future beneficial public uses of currently unused structures at the Dorothea Dix campus. It requires the department to submit its recommendations to the HHS Committee by January 10, 2024.

LD 883 – An Act to Exempt Emergency Medical Services Community Paramedicine Programs from Home Health Care Provider Licensing Requirements Under Certain Circumstances PL 2023, Chapter 195

This law excepts from the definition of "home healthcare 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 915 – Resolve, to Establish the Blue Ribbon Commission to Study the Organization of and Service Delivery by the Department of Health and Human Services PL 2023, Chapter 98 (Emergency: 7/19/23)

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 956 - An Act Concerning Sexual Orientation and Gender Identity Data Collection in Health Care Facilities PL 2023, Chapter 129

This law 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 anytime "demographic" information is taken from a patient. The federal uniform data system has included sexual orientation and gender identity data since 2016. This mandate takes effect on October 1, 2026.

LD 979 – Resolve, to Fund Treatment Services and Certain Transportation Costs for Individuals with Substance Use Disorder Resolve 2023, Chapter 111

This resolve provides one-time funding for the department to contract with 3rd parties for a one-year pilot program to provide transportation from certified hypodermic apparatus exchange programs to medically managed withdrawal sites.

New Laws

LD 982 - *An Act to Allow the Disclosure of Death Certificate Data to Hospitals and Health Care Practitioners* PL 2023, Chapter 110

This law requires death certificate data to be provided, upon request, to a hospital or healthcare practitioner pursuant to rules adopted by DHHS.

LD 1003 - *Resolve, to Develop a So-called No Eject, No Reject Policy to Support Children Receiving Behavioral Health Services and Individuals with Intellectual Disabilities or Autism* Resolve 2023, Chapter 60 [Emergency - Effective July 7, 2023.]

This Resolve requires DHHS to develop a so-called No Eject, No Reject proposal that requires residential providers of behavioral health services for children or services to individuals with intellectual disabilities or autism to receive written approval from the department in circumstances relating to termination of services or declining a referral. The department must establish a stakeholder group to develop the proposal. The department must examine data to determine reasons why providers terminate or refuse referrals for services and determine barriers to accepting individuals for treatment services. The department must report its findings, the proposal and the steps for implementing the proposal, including any rulemaking and recommended legislation, to the Committee on Health and Human Services no later than January 2, 2024.

LD 1040 – *An Act to Require Reimbursement for Gender-affirming Care for MaineCare Members* PL 2023, Chapter 288

This law 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 1104 - *Resolve, to Amend the MaineCare Hospital Readmission Protocol* Resolve 2023, Chapter 77

This resolve requires DHHS to review its MaineCare rules regarding hospital readmissions and reimbursement for readmissions, with a focus on readmissions of patients who had previously left the hospital against medical advice and readmissions of patients with substance use disorder and those with co occurring substance use disorder and behavioral health disorders. It requires the department to, by January 15, 2024, submit recommendations for statutory and rule changes regarding readmissions to the Health and Human Services Committee. It requires that, in making recommendations regarding management of readmissions of patients with substance use disorder and patients with co-occurring substance use disorder and behavioral health disorders, the department employ a trauma-informed approach.

LD 1439 – *An Act to Promote Family-centered Interventions for Substance Use Disorder Treatment* PL 2023, Chapter 463

This law requires a hospital to post in a publicly accessible area of its emergency department information provided by the Department of Health and Human Services regarding how individuals with substance use disorder can access evidence-based treatment services.

New Laws

LD 1474 - *Resolve, Directing the Department of Health and Human Services to Expedite Reimbursement of Nursing Facilities* **Resolve 2023, Chapter 121**

This Resolve requires the Department of Health and Human Services to amend its MaineCare Manual, Section 67, Principles of Reimbursement for Nursing Facilities, to require the department to reimburse at least 75% of a nursing facility's as filed settlement pursuant to the facility's cost reports within 90 days of receipt.

LD 1722 - *Resolve, to Establish the Blue Ribbon Commission to Design a Plan for Sustained Investment in Preventing Disease and Improving the Health of Maine Communities* **Resolve 2023, Chapter 100 [Emergency—Effective July 19, 2023.]**

This resolve establishes the Blue Ribbon Commission to evaluate funding models and structures that allow for the sustained investment in the health and prosperity of youth and families in the State and make recommendations for further legislative action.

LD 1925 - *An Act to Clarify and Improve the Laws Relating to the Background Check Center and the Maine Certified Nursing Assistant and Direct Care Worker Registry* **PL 2023, Chapter 241**

This 15-page law:

1. Makes many changes to the law regarding the Background Check Center, or BCC, in order to:
 - A. Authorize the collection of biometric identifier data to enable the BCC to access national criminal history backgrounds of potential employees and to amend related grandfathering provisions;
 - B. Authorize the portability of background check results from one employer to another;
 - C. Clarify the relationship of the provisions to direct access workers;
 - D. Authorize the BCC to specify offenses that disqualify an individual from employment as a direct access worker; and
 - E. Establish the BCC as the noncriminal justice submitting entity for the federal rap back monitoring program and outline procedures related to rap back monitoring.
2. Amends the law relating to the Maine Registry of Certified Nursing Assistants and Direct Care Workers in order to:
 - A. Limit the registry's authority to the eligibility of certified nursing assistants and listing direct care workers who have substantiated findings of abuse, neglect or misappropriation of property;
 - B. Clarify the relationship of the provisions to direct care workers;
 - C. Allow a process for a direct care worker to petition removal of a substantiated finding of neglect or misappropriation of property;
 - D. Clarify that certified nursing assistants and direct care workers are subject to the background check required under the provisions of law governing the BCC;
 - E. Authorize the Department of Health and Human Services to adopt rules to specify criminal convictions that disqualify a person from employment as a certified nursing assistant or direct access worker; and
 - F. Remove the provisions related to the ability of applicants to seek relief relating to 2 disqualifying criminal convictions and site that authority within the BCC.
3. Amends the provisions of law relating to unlicensed assistive persons in order to: Replace the term "unlicensed assistive person" with "direct care worker"; remove the provisions related to the ability of applicants to seek relief relating to 6 disqualifying criminal convictions and site that authority within the BCC; and provide for individuals enrolling in a training program for direct care workers to receive a background check through the BCC.

New Laws

Labor Committee (5 new laws)

LD 12 – *An Act to Amend the Laws Governing Severance Pay to Cover More Types of Employers and Include More Workers* **PL 2023, Chapter 52**

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 law removes that limitation, making the law applicable to sectors that are not within the industrial or commercial category, including non-profit entities.

LD 53 - *An Act to Ensure Accountability for Workplace Harassment and Assault by Removing Intentional Acts and Omissions from Workers' Compensation Exemptions* **PL 2023, Chapter 126**

This law 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 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* **PL 2023, Chapter 282**

This law 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 law.

LD 1756 - *An Act to Protect Employee Freedom of Speech* **PL 2023, Chapter 414**

This deceptively labeled law is unclear. The original purpose of the bill was to prohibit an employer from discharging, disciplining or otherwise penalizing or taking any adverse employment action against an employee because the employee declines to attend an employer-sponsored meeting or declines to receive or listen to a communication from the employer if the meeting or communication is to communicate the opinion of the employer about religious or political matters. Included in these meetings would be meetings about on-site union drives. The original bill would prohibit employers from forcing employees to hear the employer's side of the debate. The law was amended, and the scope of that amendment is unclear. It appears to allow employers to force employees to receive "communications" about unionization but can't force employees to attend a meeting. The summary of the amendment does not appear to match the substance of the amendment. Sorry this is unclear.

LD 1803 – *An Act to Improve the Maine Workers' Compensation Act of 1992* **PL 2023, Chapter 205**

This law amends the Maine Workers' Compensation Act of 1992 in a number of ways, including:

1. It repeals the reporting requirement regarding levels of permanent impairment.
2. If the board fails to adjust rates or update the medical fee schedule, the reimbursement rates for medical services will be the amount established by the medical fee schedule in effect on the date the update is due.

New Laws

3. It eliminates the requirement that the board adopt treatment protocols for specific injuries as part of a utilization review program.
4. It simplifies the calculation of the after-tax benefit owed during an incapacity period when an employee also receives certain pension and disability benefits.
5. It eliminates the provision that the insurer may seek from an employer of a fine for a tardy filing of a first report of injury when the report was late because the employer did not give the insurer timely notice of the injury.
6. It clarifies that an insurer may seek reimbursement from its insured employer whose failure to provide information to the insurer is the cause of the insurer's failure to file or complete a form as required by law.

Judiciary Committee (5 new laws)

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* **PL 2023, Chapter 4 [Emergency - Effective March 13, 2023.]**

The section of law of relevance to hospitals requires probate courts to restore online access to probate records temporarily and further directs the court to explore how to provide ongoing access to those who need it.

LD 459 - *An Act to Update the Procedures for Issuance of Orders Related to Involuntary Hospitalizations* **PL 2023, Chapter 66**

As enacted, this law authorizes the use of an electronic copy of the documents associated with requesting or issuing an order for involuntary commitment.

LD 934 - *An Act to Amend the Laws Governing Damages Awarded for Wrongful Death* **PL 2023, Chapter 390**

This law 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 \$1,000,000. It also increases the limit on punitive damages from \$250,000 to \$500,000 and increases from 2 years to 3 years the time after the decedent's death within which a wrongful death action must be commenced.

LD 1423 – *An Act to Increase the Limits on Awards for Compensatory and Punitive Damages Under the Maine Human Rights Act* **PL 2023, Chapter 263**

This law increases the maximum limits on awards for compensatory and punitive damages under the Maine Human Rights Act. Depending on the circumstances, the increases are from: \$50K to \$100,000; from \$100K to \$300,000; from \$300K to \$500,000; or, from \$500K to \$1,000,000.

LD 1619 – *An Act to Improve Maine's Reproductive Privacy Laws* **PL 2023, Chapter 416**

This law amends the law governing abortion reports to eliminate the requirement to use the U.S. Standard Report of Induced Termination of Pregnancy and replace it with a report that may not contain any information that identifies the patient but must contain specific data such as the date and place the abortion was performed; the age of the

New Laws

patient; the method used to perform the abortion; and the gestational age of the fetus at the time of the abortion. This law changes the standard for when an abortion may be performed after viability to when the abortion is necessary in the professional judgment of a licensed physician. In making this professional judgment, the physician must apply the applicable standard of care.

Other Committees (5 new laws)

LD 129 - *Resolve, to Direct the University of Maine System to Study the Feasibility of Establishing a Public Allopathic Medical School in Penobscot County* **Resolve 2023, Chapter 114**

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 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* **Resolve 2023, Chapter 15**

This resolve directs the Maine Emergency Medical Services Board to convene a stakeholder group to explore career pathways and educational opportunities for emergency medical services providers and to submit a report.

LD 1119 – *An Act to Clarify the Criminal Statutes with Regard to Assaults on Emergency Medical Services Persons* **PL 2023, Chapter 455.**

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.

LD 1169 – *An Act to Amend the Laws Governing the Foreign Credentialing and Skills Recognition Revolving Loan Program* **PL 2023, Chapter 456**

This law 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 1701 - *Resolve, to Reestablish and Continue the Work of the Blue Ribbon Commission to Study Emergency Medical Services in the State* **Resolve 2023, Chapter 99. [Emergency - Effective July 19, 2023.]**

This resolve reestablishes the Blue Ribbon Commission to Study Emergency Medical Services in the State, which was previously established by the 130th Legislature in 2022.

Studies

Several bills created studies to look at various issues between sessions.

LD 129 - *Resolve, to Direct the University of Maine System to Study the Feasibility of Establishing a Public Allopathic Medical School in Penobscot County* **Resolve 2023, Chapter 114**

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* **Resolve 2023, Chapter 15**

LD 859 - *Resolve, to Assess, Develop, Implement and Fund the Reuse of Existing Facilities at Dorothea Dix Psychiatric Center* **Resolve 2023, Chapter 75**

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* **PL 2023, Chapter 98**

LD 937 - *Resolve, to Establish the Commission Regarding Foreign-trained Physicians Living in Maine* **Enacted as Resolve 2023, Chapter 93**

LD 1003 - *Resolve, to Develop a So-called No Eject, No Reject Policy to Support Children Receiving Behavioral Health Services and Individuals with Intellectual Disabilities or Autism* **Resolve 2023, Chapter 60**

LD 1104 - *Resolve, to Amend the MaineCare Hospital Readmission Protocol* **Resolve 2023, Chapter 77**

LD 1701 - *Resolve, to Reestablish and Continue the Work of the Blue Ribbon Commission to Study Emergency Medical Services in the State* **Resolve 2023, Chapter 99**

LD 1795 - *An Act to Create Greater Transparency for Facility Fees Charged by Health Care Providers and to Establish the Task Force to Evaluate the Impact of Facility Fees on Patients* **PL 2023, Chapter 410**

OTHER:

LD 258 Supplemental Biennial Budget - Paid Family Leave: Department of Labor must undertake a lot of rulemaking related to this new state entitlement mandate. Of particular interest is the rulemaking for private option plans for employers who want to avoid participation in the state system.

LD 258 Supplemental Biennial Budget - Inpatient Rates (PPS Hospitals): DHHS is going to undertake rate review for DRGs in the Medicaid program.

LD 1321 (CEO Salary Bill That was Killed): Letter from Committee to AG to look into whether hospitals and DHHS are complying with pay disclosure law (22 MRSA §1819-A).

Carryovers

The following bills will be taken-up during the Second Session in 2024.

Health and Human Services Committee (12 bills)

- LD 251:** *Resolve, to Classify Employee Health Insurance as a Fixed Cost for MaineCare Reimbursement in Nursing Facilities*
- LD 299:** *An Act to Amend the Laws Regarding Health and Human Services*
- LD 353:** *An Act Concerning Substance Use Disorder, Treatment, Recovery, Prevention and Education*
- LD 435:** *Resolve, to Ensure the Provision of Medically Necessary Behavioral Health Care Services for Children in Their Homes and Communities*
- LD 821:** *Resolve, To Improve Access to Neurobehavioral Services*
- LD 906:** *An Act to Ensure Physicians Receive Full Diagnostic Test Data Concerning Tick-borne Diseases*
- LD 1224:** *Resolve, Directing the Department of Health and Human Services to Seek Federal Approval for Reimbursement of Community-based Mobile Crisis Intervention Services*
- LD 1575:** *An Act to Promote Quality and Innovation in Nursing and Residential Care Facilities*
- LD 1751:** *An Act to Maximize Federal Funding in Support of Emergency Medical Services*
- LD 1827:** *An Act to Prevent Closures and Ensure Sustainability of Nursing Facilities, Private Nonmedical Institutions and Residential Care Facilities by Removing So-called Budget Neutrality*
- LD 1955:** *An Act to Require Hospitals and Hospital-affiliated Providers to Provider Financial Assistance for Medical Care*
- LD 2009:** *An Act to Prevent Abandonment of Children and Adults with Disabilities in Hospitals*

Insurance Committee (15 bills)

- LD 132:** *An Act to Require Health Insurance Carriers to Provide Coverage for Blood Testing for Perfluoroalkyl and Polyfluoroalkyl Substances*
- LD 227:** *An Act Regarding Health Care in the State*
- LD 307:** *An Act to Lower the State's Health Care Costs*
- LD 663:** *An Act to Require Health Insurance Coverage for Pediatric Autoimmune Neuropsychiatric Disorders Associated with Streptococcal Infections and Pediatric Acute-onset Neuropsychiatric Syndrome*
- LD 796:** *An Act Concerning Prior Authorizations for Health Care Provider Services*
- LD 1165:** *An Act to Enhance Cost Savings to Consumers of Prescription Drugs*
- LD 1205:** *An Act Regarding the Scope of Practice of Certified Professional Midwives and Certified Midwives*
- LD 1407:** *An Act to Amend the Maine Insurance Code Regarding Payments by Health Insurance Carriers to Providers [MHA bill]*
- LD 1494:** *An Act to Help Address the Worker Shortage in Behavioral Health Care Services by Allowing Provisional Licensure and Providing for Reimbursement for Out-of-state Licensees*
- LD 1498:** *An Act to Create an Advocacy and Complaint Process for Health Care Providers Within the Bureau of Insurance*
- LD 1533:** *An Act to Provide for Consistent Billing Practices by Health Care Providers*
- LD 1577:** *An Act to Require Health Insurance Coverage for Biomarker Testing*
- LD 1740:** *An Act to Support an Insured Patient's Access to Affordable Health Care with Timely Access to Health Care Prices*
- LD 1829:** *An Act to Reduce Prescription Drug Costs by Requiring Reference-based Pricing*
- LD 1832:** *An Act to Require Reimbursement of Fees for Treatment Rendered by Public and Private Ambulance Services*

Labor Committee (8 bills)

- LD 321:** *An Act to Create a Bill of Rights for Temporary Workers*
- LD 324:** *An Act to Prevent the Wrongful Firing of Maine Workers*
- LD 372:** *An Act to Increase Enforcement and Accountability for Wage and Hour Violations*
- LD 373:** *An Act to Improve Labor Conditions for Maine Workers*
- LD 513:** *An Act Regarding Overtime Protections for Certain Maine Workers*
- LD 738:** *An Act to Establish a Paid Family and Medical Leave System*
- LD 1496:** *An Act to Prohibit Noncompete Clauses*
- LD 1896:** *An Act to Index Workers' Compensation Benefits to the Rate of Inflation*

Carryovers

Judiciary Committee (4)

- LD 780:** *RESOLUTION, Proposing an Amendment to the Constitution of Maine to Protect Personal Reproductive Autonomy*
- LD 1705:** *An Act to Give Consumers Control over Sensitive Personal Data by Requiring Consumer Consent Prior to Collection of Data*
- LD 1902:** *An Act to Protect Personal Health Data*
- LD 1973:** *An Act to Enact the Maine Consumer Privacy Act*
- LD 1977:** *An Act to Create the Data Privacy and Protection Act*

Taxation Committee (3)

- LD 1010:** *An Act to Provide Tax Relief for Working Families*
- LD 1184:** *An Act to Exempt Certain Prescribed Home Medical Supplies from Sales Tax*
- LD 1222:** *An Act to Expand Child Care Services Through an Employer-supported Tax Credit*

Other (5)

- Environment Committee: **LD 1009** – *An Act Regarding the Reduction and Recycling of Food Waste*
- Criminal Justice Committee: **LD 1515** - *An Act to Fund Delivery of Emergency Medical Services*
- Veterans and Legal Affairs Committee: **LD 1914**—*An Act to Enact the Maine Psilocybin Health Access Act*
- IDEA Committee: **LD 1815**—*An Act to Protect Maine's Consumers by Establishing an Abuse of Dominance Right of Action and Requiring Notification of Mergers*
- Senate: **LD 1639** - *An Act to Address Unsafe Staffing of Nurses and Improve Patient Care*

Appropriations Committee (21)

- LD 208:** *An Act Concerning Home Care Services*
- LD 223:** *Resolve, Directing the Department of Health and Human Services to Amend Its Rules Regarding Pharmacy Services*
- LD 225:** *An Act to Expand the Reimbursement to Hospitals for Days Awaiting Placement in Facilities*
- LD 361:** *An Act to Increase the Reimbursement for Electronic Consultations Through Medicaid*
- 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*
- LD 472:** *An Act to Support Certified Community Behavioral Health Clinic Projects*
- LD 741:** *An Act to Prohibit Training Repayment Agreements by Employers*
- LD 840:** *An Act to Support Individuals with Personality Disorder or Emotional Dysregulation by Requiring Reimbursement Under the MaineCare Program*
- LD 904:** *An Act Supporting the Rural Health Care Workforce in Maine*
- LD 936:** *An Act to Require Disclosure of Pay Ranges and Record Keeping of Pay History*
- LD 938:** *An Act to Assist Nursing Homes in the Management of Facility Beds*
- LD 949:** *An Act to Protect Workers from Employer Surveillance*
- LD 997:** *Resolve, to Reduce Workforce Barriers for Mental Health Professionals in Maine*
- LD 1161:** *An Act to Fund Free Health Clinics*
- LD 1190:** *An Act to Ensure a Fair Workweek by Requiring Notice of Work Schedules*
- 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*
- LD 1304:** *Resolve, to Establish the Task Force to Study Barriers to Achieving Behavioral Health Integration and Parity*
- LD 1305:** *Resolve, to Design and Implement a Community-based Model of Care for Adolescent Mental Health*
- LD 1506:** *Resolve, Directing the Department of Health and Human Services to Study the Scarcity of Licensed Clinical Behavioral Health Professionals Across the State*
- LD 1792:** *Resolve, to Establish the Rural Health Services Task Force*
- LD 1797:** *An Act to Expand Maine's Health Care Workforce by Expanding Educational Opportunities and Providing Tax Credits*



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