



125th MAINE LEGISLATURE

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Legislative Document

No. 1114

H.P. 826

House of Representatives, March 15, 2011

An Act To Improve Preventive Dental Health Care and Reduce Future Avoidable Costs

Reference to the Committee on Health and Human Services suggested and ordered printed.

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Heather J.R. Priest".

HEATHER J.R. PRIEST
Clerk

Presented by Representative STRANG BURGESS of Cumberland.
Cosponsored by Senator CRAVEN of Androscoggin and
Representatives: FOSSEL of Alna, KENT of Woolwich, KUMIEGA of Deer Isle, MALABY
of Hancock, SANBORN of Gorham, SIROCKI of Scarborough, STUCKEY of Portland,
Senator: KATZ of Kennebec.

1 **Be it enacted by the People of the State of Maine as follows:**

2 **Sec. 1. 22 MRSA §3174-F, sub-§1**, as amended by PL 2003, c. 689, Pt. B, §6, is
3 further amended to read:

4 **1. Coverage provided.** The Department of Health and Human Services shall
5 provide dental services, reimbursed under the United States Social Security Act, Title
6 XIX, or successors to it, to individuals 21 years of age and over, limited to:

7 A. Acute surgical care directly related to an accident where traumatic injury has
8 occurred. This coverage will only be provided for the first 3 months after the
9 accident;

10 B. Oral surgical and related medical procedures not involving the dentition and
11 gingiva;

12 C. Extraction of teeth that are severely decayed and pose a serious threat of infection
13 during a major surgical procedure of the cardiovascular system, the skeletal system or
14 during radiation therapy for a malignant tumor;

15 D. Treatment necessary to relieve pain, eliminate infection or prevent imminent
16 tooth loss; and

17 F. Other dental services, including full and partial dentures, medically necessary to
18 correct or ameliorate an underlying medical condition, if the department determines
19 that provision of those services will be cost-effective in comparison to the provision
20 of other covered medical services for the treatment of that condition.

21 The department shall establish criteria to determine those groups of adults for which the
22 provision of preventive and restorative services would be cost effective by reducing
23 expenditures under this chapter, and may provide such services to person within those
24 identified groups.

25 **SUMMARY**

26 This bill directs the Department of Health and Human Services to establish criteria to
27 determine those groups of adults for which the provision of preventive and restorative
28 services would be cost effective by reducing expenditures under MaineCare, and
29 authorizes the department to provide such services to persons within those identified
30 groups.