



131st MAINE LEGISLATURE

FIRST REGULAR SESSION-2023

Legislative Document

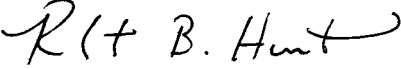
No. 282

H.P. 180

House of Representatives, January 26, 2023

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

Submitted by the Department of Health and Human Services pursuant to Joint Rule 204.
Reference to the Committee on Health and Human Services suggested and ordered printed.


ROBERT B. HUNT
Clerk

Presented by Representative GRAHAM of North Yarmouth.

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

2 **Sec. 1. 22 MRSA §3173-K** is enacted to read:

3 **§3173-K. Standing orders**

4 To promote public health and the health of MaineCare members, the department may
5 authorize standing orders for the dispensing of vaccines as described in Title 32, section
6 13831 and nonprescription drugs as defined in Title 32, section 13702-A, subsection 20
7 that support access to preventive care and medically necessary services for Medicaid
8 recipients as defined in section 3172, subsection 3; participants in the state-funded medical
9 program for noncitizens under section 3174-FFF; elderly low-cost drug program enrollees
10 as defined in section 254-D, subsection 1, paragraph B; qualified residents as defined in
11 section 2681, subsection 2, paragraph F; and persons receiving benefits under the Cub Care
12 program under section 3174-T.

13 A standing order must identify the eligible population as described in this section and
14 may include other criteria such as age limitations or pharmacist instructions. The standing
15 order remains in effect for one year, at which time the order may be renewed. The standing
16 order must be signed by a physician licensed in this State employed by or contracted with
17 the department or the office of MaineCare services within the department or by a licensed,
18 MaineCare-enrolled prescriber and a department official.

19 **SUMMARY**

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