

132nd MAINE LEGISLATURE

FIRST REGULAR SESSION-2025

Legislative Document

No. 1084

H.P. 706

House of Representatives, March 18, 2025

Resolve, to Alleviate the Behavioral Health Workforce Shortage by Allowing the Training and Granting of Behavioral Health Certifications by Community-based Agencies and Hospitals

Received by the Clerk of the House on March 14, 2025. Referred to the Committee on Health Coverage, Insurance and Financial Services pursuant to Joint Rule 308.2 and ordered printed pursuant to Joint Rule 401.

ROBERT B. HUNT

R(+ B. Hunt

Clerk

Presented by Representative CRAFTS of Newcastle. Cosponsored by Senator MOORE of Washington and

Representatives: CARLOW of Buxton, GRAHAM of North Yarmouth, SHAGOURY of

Hallowell, Senator: INGWERSEN of York.

Sec. 1. Behavioral health certifications. Resolved: That the Department of Health and Human Services shall, by January 1, 2026, amend its rules to allow community-based agencies and hospitals to provide in-house training and to certify their own staff for all levels of mental health rehabilitation technicians, certified residential medication aides and behavioral health professionals. The department shall terminate 3rd-party contracts to conduct this training and shall end the requirement for 3rd-party approval for certifications for those positions.

SUMMARY

 This resolve requires the Department of Health and Human Services to, by January 1, 2026, amend its rules to allow community-based agencies and hospitals to provide in-house training and to certify their own staff for all levels of mental health rehabilitation technicians, certified residential medication aides and behavioral health professionals. It requires the department to terminate 3rd-party contracts to conduct this training and to end the requirement for 3rd-party approval for certifications for those positions.