



130th MAINE LEGISLATURE

FIRST REGULAR SESSION-2021

Legislative Document

No. 631

S.P. 245

In Senate, March 3, 2021

An Act To Provide Funding for Maine's Health Insurance Consumer Assistance Program

Received by the Secretary of the Senate on March 1, 2021. Referred to the Committee on Health Coverage, Insurance and Financial Services pursuant to Joint Rule 308.2 and ordered printed.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'D M Grant'.

DAREK M. GRANT
Secretary of the Senate

Presented by Senator BRENNER of Cumberland.
Cosponsored by Representatives: BROOKS of Lewiston, MATHIESON of Kittery, TEPLER of Topsham.

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

2 **Sec. 1. 24-A MRSA §4326, sub-§5** is enacted to read:

3 **5. Funding.** The State shall provide necessary funding for the consumer assistance
4 program.

5 **Sec. 2. Transfers from available fiscal year 2021-22 and fiscal year 2022-**
6 **23 Department of Professional and Financial Regulation, Bureau of Insurance,**
7 **Other Special Revenue Funds balances to the Department of the Attorney**
8 **General.** Notwithstanding any provision of law to the contrary, on October 1, 2021 and
9 on July 1, 2022 the State Controller shall transfer \$200,000 from available balances in the
10 Bureau of Insurance Other Special Revenue Funds account within the Department of
11 Professional and Financial Regulation to the Department of the Attorney General.

12 **Sec. 3. Appropriations and allocations.** The following appropriations and
13 allocations are made.

14 **ATTORNEY GENERAL, DEPARTMENT OF THE**

15 **Administration - Attorney General 0310**

16 Initiative: Provides allocations for the Attorney General to contract with a designated
17 nonprofit and independent health insurance consumer assistance entity to continue to
18 operate the Health Insurance Consumer Assistance Program.

19	OTHER SPECIAL REVENUE FUNDS	2021-22	2022-23
20	All Other	\$200,000	\$200,000
21			
22	OTHER SPECIAL REVENUE FUNDS TOTAL	<u>\$200,000</u>	<u>\$200,000</u>

23 **SUMMARY**

24 This bill clarifies that the State is responsible for funding the Health Insurance
25 Consumer Assistance Program. The bill also provides continued funding for the Health
26 Insurance Consumer Assistance Program in fiscal years 2021-22 and 2022-23 through a
27 transfer of available Other Special Revenue Funds balances from the Department of
28 Professional and Financial Regulation to the Department of the Attorney General.