

STATE OF MAINE

—
IN THE YEAR OF OUR LORD
TWO THOUSAND TWENTY-FIVE

—
H.P. 509 - L.D. 802

Resolve, Directing the Department of Health and Human Services to Design a Mentoring Program for Youth Who Have Extended Care and Support Agreements with the Department

Sec. 1. Department of Health and Human Services contract for mentoring program. Resolved: That the Department of Health and Human Services shall amend its contract CFS-25-627 with the Youth Leadership Advisory Team at the University of Southern Maine to increase the contract by \$20,000 to evaluate mentoring program options for youth who have extended care and support agreements with the department pursuant to the Maine Revised Statutes, Title 22, section 4037-A. The Youth Leadership Advisory Team shall research mentoring programs that are evidence-based to recommend a mentoring program model to the department. The mentoring program must include training requirements for supporting youth transitioning out of extended care and support agreements for mentors, staff and youth, as well as multiple data collection points and data analysis. The Youth Leadership Advisory Team shall consult with youth who currently have extended care and support agreements or have had extended care and support agreements in the past. The amendment to the contract must allow for compensation, including supplies and travel, for youth who are involved in the development of the mentoring program. The department shall submit a report to the joint standing committee of the Legislature having jurisdiction over health and human services matters, no later than January 2, 2027, with recommendations for a mentoring program. The report must include the recommendations from the Youth Leadership Advisory Team, descriptions of youth viewpoints and the department's response to the recommendations. The joint standing committee of the Legislature having jurisdiction over health and human services matters is authorized to report out legislation related to the report to the 133rd Legislature in 2027.

Sec. 2. Appropriations and allocations. Resolved: That the following appropriations and allocations are made.

**HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES, DEPARTMENT OF
State-funded Foster Care/Adoption Assistance 0139**

Initiative: Provides one-time funding to evaluate mentoring program options for youth with extended care and support agreements under an existing contract.

GENERAL FUND	2025-26	2026-27
All Other	\$20,000	\$0
GENERAL FUND TOTAL	<u>\$20,000</u>	<u>\$0</u>