

STATE OF MAINE

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

—
H.P. 637 - L.D. 977

**Resolve, Requiring the Maine Health Data Organization to Develop a Plan
for Measuring Gaps in Home and Community-based Services**

Preamble. **Whereas**, continuing workforce challenges have contributed to a gap between home and community-based services that are authorized and those that are delivered under the MaineCare program and state-funded programs; and

Whereas, consistent measurement of this care gap is critical to understanding whether the gap is expanding or contracting and whether policy interventions are needed; and

Whereas, the federal Department of Health and Human Services, Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services have published Medicaid home and community-based services gap measures that states will be required to submit to the Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services; and

Whereas, the Maine Health Data Organization has expertise that uniquely qualifies it to calculate valid and complex health care measures; now, therefore, be it

Sec. 1. Maine Health Data Organization to develop measurement plan.
Resolved: That the Maine Health Data Organization shall develop a plan for annual measurement of the State's home and community-based services care gap, using claims and care authorization data that currently exist. The plan must ensure that the measures meet federal Department of Health and Human Services, Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services data requirements and are therefore comparable to measures submitted by other states. As used in this resolve, "care gap" means the difference between the home and community-based services individuals are authorized to receive and the services they actually receive under the following MaineCare provisions and state-funded programs: the Department of Health and Human Services rule Chapter 101: MaineCare Benefits Manual, Sections 12, 17, 18, 19, 20, 21, 23, 26, 28, 29, 40, 65, 92 and 96; and 10-149 C.M.R. Chapter 5, Office of Aging and Disability Services Policy Manual, Sections 61, 63, 68 and 69 as well as any rules that are adopted to provide services under the lifespan program pursuant to the Maine Revised Statutes, Title 34-B, section 5003-B.

Sec. 2. Department of Health and Human Services to provide sample data.
Resolved: That the Department of Health and Human Services shall provide sample data

related to care gap measurement to the Maine Health Data Organization on request for use in developing the measurement plan in section 1.

Sec. 3. Report. Resolved: That the Maine Health Data Organization shall submit a report to the Joint Standing Committee on Health and Human Services by January 15, 2026 outlining available data, data gaps and the estimated cost of creating and implementing an annual measurement of the care gap that meets federal reporting requirements pursuant to section 1. The report may include recommendations regarding responsibilities for ongoing data collection, tracking and reporting.

Sec. 4. Appropriations and allocations. Resolved: That the following appropriations and allocations are made.

**HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES, DEPARTMENT OF
Office of MaineCare Services 0129**

Initiative: Provides one-time funding for data system work to provide data to the Maine Health Data Organization.

GENERAL FUND	2025-26	2026-27
All Other	\$18,620	\$0
GENERAL FUND TOTAL	<u>\$18,620</u>	<u>\$0</u>

FEDERAL EXPENDITURES FUND	2025-26	2026-27
All Other	\$18,620	\$0
FEDERAL EXPENDITURES FUND TOTAL	<u>\$18,620</u>	<u>\$0</u>

HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES, DEPARTMENT OF DEPARTMENT TOTALS	2025-26	2026-27
GENERAL FUND	\$18,620	\$0
FEDERAL EXPENDITURES FUND	\$18,620	\$0
DEPARTMENT TOTAL - ALL FUNDS	<u>\$37,240</u>	<u>\$0</u>

**HEALTH DATA ORGANIZATION, MAINE
Maine Health Data Organization 0848**

Initiative: Provides one-time funding to contract a consultant to assist the Maine Health Data Organization to comply with the provisions of this legislation.

OTHER SPECIAL REVENUE FUNDS	2025-26	2026-27
All Other	\$45,000	\$0
OTHER SPECIAL REVENUE FUNDS TOTAL	<u>\$45,000</u>	<u>\$0</u>

HEALTH DATA ORGANIZATION, MAINE		
DEPARTMENT TOTALS	2025-26	2026-27
OTHER SPECIAL REVENUE FUNDS	\$45,000	\$0
DEPARTMENT TOTAL - ALL FUNDS	\$45,000	\$0
SECTION TOTALS	2025-26	2026-27
GENERAL FUND	\$18,620	\$0
FEDERAL EXPENDITURES FUND	\$18,620	\$0
OTHER SPECIAL REVENUE FUNDS	\$45,000	\$0
SECTION TOTAL - ALL FUNDS	\$82,240	\$0