



130th MAINE LEGISLATURE

SECOND REGULAR SESSION-2022

Legislative Document

No. 1765

H.P. 1316

House of Representatives, December 2, 2021

An Act To Support Child Care for Working Families

Submitted by the Department of Health and Human Services pursuant to Joint Rule 203.

Received by the Clerk of the House on November 30, 2021. Referred to the Committee on Health and Human Services pursuant to Joint Rule 308.2 and ordered printed pursuant to Joint Rule 401.

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Robert B. Hunt".

ROBERT B. HUNT
Clerk

Presented by Representative MEYER of Eliot.

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

2 **Sec. 1. 22 MRSA §3762, sub-§8, ¶C**, as amended by PL 2009, c. 291, §6, is further
3 amended to read:

4 C. The department shall make available transitional child care services to families who
5 lose eligibility for TANF as a result of increased earnings or an increase in the number
6 of hours worked. The department shall make available transitional child care services
7 to families who lose eligibility for TANF as a result of increased earnings or an increase
8 in the number of hours worked and whose gross income is equal to or less than 250%
9 of the federal poverty guidelines. The department may also make transitional child care
10 services available to families in which one or both adults are working and who,
11 although they remain financially eligible for TANF benefits, request that their benefits
12 be terminated. The family shall pay a premium ~~of 2% to~~ which may be waived but
13 may not exceed 10% of gross income, based on the family's gross income compared to
14 the federal poverty level in accordance with rules adopted by the department. Parents
15 must have a choice of child care within the rate established by the department.

16 **SUMMARY**

17 This bill removes the requirement that the Department of Health and Human Services
18 charge a minimum transitional child care services premium for families who lose eligibility
19 for Temporary Assistance for Needy Families benefits as a result of increased earnings or
20 an increase in the number of hours worked or who request that their benefits be terminated.