



132nd MAINE LEGISLATURE

FIRST REGULAR SESSION-2025

Legislative Document

No. 63

H.P. 27

House of Representatives, January 8, 2025

**An Act to Support Implementation of Certified Community
Behavioral Health Clinic Projects**

(EMERGENCY)

Submitted by the Department of Health and Human Services pursuant to Joint Rule 204.
Received by the Clerk of the House on January 6, 2025. 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 GRAHAM of North Yarmouth.

1 **Emergency preamble. Whereas**, acts and resolves of the Legislature do not
2 become effective until 90 days after adjournment unless enacted as emergencies; and

3 **Whereas**, the Legislature appropriated funds during the 131st Legislature to support
4 certified community behavioral health clinic projects; and

5 **Whereas**, since the adjournment of the 131st Legislature, the State was accepted into
6 the Certified Community Behavioral Health Clinic Medicaid Demonstration Program by
7 the United States Department of Health and Human Services, Centers for Medicare and
8 Medicaid Services, in partnership with the United States Department of Health and Human
9 Services, Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration; and

10 **Whereas**, an adjustment in the appropriation of funding for certified community
11 behavioral health clinic projects is needed for state-licensed mental health organizations to
12 establish certified community behavioral health clinics within the federal Medicaid
13 demonstration program and to leverage federal funding for the implementation of a
14 Medicaid prospective payment system model; and

15 **Whereas**, the establishment of certified community behavioral health clinics through
16 the federal Medicaid demonstration program is critical to strengthening the community
17 mental health system to provide comprehensive and integrated mental health and substance
18 use services that ensure timely access to care, improve accountability and improve the
19 quality of behavioral health services and supports to meet the needs of people in this State;
20 and

21 **Whereas**, in the judgment of the Legislature, these facts create an emergency within
22 the meaning of the Constitution of Maine and require the following legislation as
23 immediately necessary for the preservation of the public peace, health and safety; now,
24 therefore,

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

26 **Sec. 1. Certified Community Behavioral Health Clinic Medicaid**
27 **Demonstration Program funding.** The State Controller shall transfer the funds
28 appropriated in Public Law 2023, chapter 643, Part A for one-time funding for the start-up
29 and implementation costs for all state-licensed mental health organizations participating in
30 certified community behavioral health clinic projects to the Department of Health and
31 Human Services to a Medicaid account within the Office of MaineCare Services. The
32 department shall use the funding as the Medicaid services state share for state-licensed
33 mental health organizations to initiate participation in the Certified Community Behavioral
34 Health Clinic Medicaid Demonstration Program by the United States Department of Health
35 and Human Services, Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services, in partnership with the
36 United States Department of Health and Human Services, Substance Abuse and Mental
37 Health Services Administration.

38 **Emergency clause.** In view of the emergency cited in the preamble, this legislation
39 takes effect when approved.

40 **SUMMARY**

41 This bill requires funding appropriated in Public Law 2023, chapter 643 for certified
42 community behavioral health clinic projects to be used to support the Medicaid services

1 state share of funds needed for state-licensed mental health organizations to participate in
2 the Certified Community Behavioral Health Clinic Medicaid Demonstration Program by
3 the United States Department of Health and Human Services, Centers for Medicare and
4 Medicaid Services, in partnership with the United States Department of Health and Human
5 Services, Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration.