



# 132nd MAINE LEGISLATURE

## FIRST REGULAR SESSION-2025

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Legislative Document

No. 709

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H.P. 448

House of Representatives, February 25, 2025

### **An Act to Establish the Respite for ME Program**

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Submitted by the Department of Health and Human Services pursuant to Joint Rule 204.

Received by the Clerk of the House on February 20, 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 "R B. Hunt".

ROBERT B. HUNT  
Clerk

Presented by Representative CLOUTIER of Lewiston.

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

2 **Sec. 1. 22 MRSA §7308**, as amended by PL 2001, c. 487, §1, is repealed and the  
3 following enacted in its place:

4 **§7308. Respite for ME Program**

5 The Respite for ME Program is established in the department. The department shall  
6 administer the Respite for ME Program for the purpose of providing respite care, as  
7 described in the federal Older Americans Act of 1965, 42 United States Code, Section  
8 3030s-1(b)(4), and supplemental services, as described in 42 United States Code, Section  
9 3030s-1(b)(5), for family caregivers as defined in 42 United States Code, Section 3022(3)  
10 and older relative caregivers as defined in 42 United States Code, Section 3030s(a)(4).

11 **SUMMARY**

12 This bill repeals the law that directs the Department of Health and Human Services to  
13 administer the Respite Care Fund and instead establishes the Respite for ME Program and  
14 directs the department to administer the Respite for ME Program for the purpose of  
15 providing respite care and supplemental services for family caregivers and older relative  
16 caregivers.