



# 129th MAINE LEGISLATURE

## FIRST REGULAR SESSION-2019

---

Legislative Document

No. 52

S.P. 15

In Senate, January 9, 2019

---

**An Act To Provide an Affordable and Accessible Health Care  
System for all Residents of Maine**

---

Reference to the Committee on Health Coverage, Insurance and Financial Services  
suggested and ordered printed.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'D M Grant'.

DAREK M. GRANT  
Secretary of the Senate

Presented by Senator GRATWICK of Penobscot.  
Cosponsored by Representative HYMANSON of York and  
Senators: CLAXTON of Androscoggin, FOLEY of York, President JACKSON of Aroostook,  
SANBORN, H. of Cumberland, SANBORN, L. of Cumberland, VITELLI of Sagadahoc,  
Representatives: McCREIGHT of Harpswell, RYKERSON of Kittery.

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

2 **CONCEPT DRAFT**

3 **SUMMARY**

4 This bill is a concept draft pursuant to Joint Rule 208.

5 This bill proposes to establish a health care system in the State that will be simple and  
6 efficient for all consumers and providers. The bill proposes to provide all Maine  
7 residents with access to an affordable health benefit plan covering essential health  
8 benefits. The bill proposes to create the Health Care Trust, which will have authority to  
9 determine essential health care benefits, to negotiate with providers, to reimburse  
10 providers for the costs of providing care at negotiated rates and to manage the financing  
11 mechanisms for the trust. All Maine residents will be eligible to enroll in the trust on a  
12 voluntary basis. Those residents currently eligible for MaineCare or other public  
13 coverage will be automatically enrolled; MaineCare and other public coverage programs  
14 will be replaced by the trust's health care coverage.

15 The bill proposes to use several funding sources to pay for the costs of the trust and  
16 for coverage of all Maine residents enrolled in the trust for coverage, including payroll  
17 taxes, transaction taxes and available federal funding.

18 The Health Care Trust will be administered by a health care administrator and  
19 overseen by a board of trustees. In addition, a stakeholder advisory board will provide  
20 input and guidance for the trust.