



# 131st MAINE LEGISLATURE

## FIRST REGULAR SESSION-2023

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Legislative Document

No. 1187

S.P. 483

In Senate, March 14, 2023

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**An Act to Protect Inpatient Psychiatric Services in Northern Maine  
by Preserving the Current Reimbursement Rate**

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Reference to the Committee on Health and Human 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 President JACKSON of Aroostook.  
Cosponsored by Representative THERIAULT of Fort Kent and  
Senators: BALDACCI of Penobscot, INGWERSEN of York, STEWART of Aroostook,  
Representatives: ALBERT of Madawaska, BABIN of Fort Fairfield, GUERRETTE of  
Caribou, Speaker TALBOT ROSS of Portland, UNDERWOOD of Presque Isle.

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

2 **Sec. 1. 22 MRSA §3174-C**, as enacted by PL 1985, c. 769, §1, is repealed and the  
3 following enacted in its place:

4 **§3174-C. Coverage for inpatient hospital mental disease treatment services**

5 **1. Reimbursement required.** Provided that the federal maintenance-of-effort  
6 requirements are satisfied, the department shall provide reimbursement, under the United  
7 States Social Security Act, Title XIX, for inpatient psychiatric facility care and treatment  
8 of patients with mental diseases.

9 **2. Legislative review for certain reimbursement rates.** The department may not  
10 decrease the reimbursement rate for distinct psychiatric unit discharges for Northern Maine  
11 Medical Center or its successor hospital without legislative approval. Notwithstanding  
12 section 3173, rules decreasing the reimbursement rate under this subsection are major  
13 substantive rules as defined in Title 5, chapter 375, subchapter 2-A.

14 **SUMMARY**

15 This bill prohibits the Department of Health and Human Services from decreasing the  
16 reimbursement rate for distinct psychiatric unit discharges for Northern Maine Medical  
17 Center or its successor hospital without legislative approval.