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Date:

(Filing No. S-)

HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES

Reproduced and distributed under the direction of the Secretary of the Senate.

STATE OF MAINE

SENATE

131ST LEGISLATURE

SECOND REGULAR SESSION

COMMITTEE AMENDMENT “ ” to S.P. 354, L.D. 857, “An Act to Improve Family Team Meetings in Child Welfare Cases to Ensure Better Outcomes for Children by Providing Adequate Funding”

Amend the bill by striking out the title and substituting the following:

'Resolve, to Establish a Process to Evaluate the Family Team Meeting Model'

Amend the bill by striking out everything after the title and inserting the following:

'Sec. 1. Department of Health and Human Services, Office of Child and Family Services to evaluate family team meeting model. Resolved: That the Department of Health and Human Services, Office of Child and Family Services shall contract with an independent entity to develop a system for the evaluation of the family team meeting model that is used as part of the department's child and family services policy including family team meeting policy and facilitated family team meeting policy. The contracted entity shall submit a report, no later than January 2, 2026, to the Department of Health and Human Services and the Maine Child Welfare Advisory Panel established in the Maine Revised Statutes, Title 22, section 4010-D. The contracted entity shall develop a system of evaluation that includes the following:

- 1. A process for ongoing data collection and analysis that includes case review and family team meeting participant input;
- 2. The use of data to evaluate the extent that current family team meeting practices reflect the requirements in the child and family services policy; and
- 3. A process for implementing the data collection and use in subsections 1 and 2 and a plan for continuous quality improvement of the family team meeting model.

Sec. 2. Appropriations and allocations. Resolved: That the following appropriations and allocations are made.

**HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES, DEPARTMENT OF
IV-E Foster Care/Adoption Assistance 0137**

COMMITTEE AMENDMENT

1 Initiative: Provides one-time funding over 2 years to contract with an independent entity to
2 develop a system for the evaluation of the family team meeting model in the department's
3 child and family services policy. The contracted entity must submit a report, no later than
4 January 2, 2026, to the Department of Health and Human Services and the Maine Child
5 Welfare Advisory Panel.

6	GENERAL FUND	2023-24	2024-25
7	All Other	\$0	\$171,190
8			
9	GENERAL FUND TOTAL	\$0	\$171,190

10

11 Amend the bill by relettering or renumbering any nonconsecutive Part letter or section
12 number to read consecutively.

13

SUMMARY

14 This amendment replaces the bill, which is a concept draft, with a resolve. It requires
15 the Department of Health and Human Services, Office of Child and Family Services to
16 contract with an independent entity to develop a system for the evaluation of the family
17 team meeting model in the department's child and family services policy. The contracted
18 entity must submit a report, no later than January 2, 2026, to the Department of Health and
19 Human Services and the Maine Child Welfare Advisory Panel.

20

FISCAL NOTE REQUIRED

21

(See attached)