

STATE OF MAINE

IN THE YEAR OF OUR LORD  
TWO THOUSAND TWENTY-FIVE

H.P. 100 - L.D. 167

**An Act to Provide 2 Hearing Aids to MaineCare Members with Diagnosed Hearing Loss**

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

**Sec. 1. 22 MRSA §3174-ZZ, sub-§2**, as enacted by PL 2017, c. 237, §1, is amended to read:

**2. Required reimbursement.** The department shall provide reimbursement for a hearing aid for ~~one~~ each hearing-impaired ear of an individual enrolled in the MaineCare program in accordance with the following requirements:

- A. The hearing loss must be documented by a primary care provider or an audiologist licensed pursuant to Title 32, chapter 137;
- B. The hearing aid must be provided by an audiologist or a hearing aid dealer licensed pursuant to Title 32, chapter 137; and
- C. The hearing loss must meet the requirements established by the department in rule regarding the individual's severity of hearing loss.

~~The department shall provide reimbursement for a hearing aid for the 2nd hearing-impaired ear of an individual enrolled in the MaineCare program if the individual meets requirements established by the department by rule regarding the individual's severity of hearing loss, enrollment in school, enrollment in vocational training, employment needs or the needs identified by a primary care provider.~~

**Sec. 2. Appropriations and allocations.** The following appropriations and allocations are made.

**HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES, DEPARTMENT OF**

**Medical Care - Payments to Providers 0147**

Initiative: Provides funding for reimbursement for bilateral hearing aids for MaineCare members with diagnosed hearing loss.

GENERAL FUND	2025-26	2026-27
All Other	\$0	\$102,946

GENERAL FUND TOTAL	<u>\$0</u>	<u>\$102,946</u>
<b>FEDERAL EXPENDITURES FUND</b>	<b>2025-26</b>	<b>2026-27</b>
All Other	\$0	\$218,379
FEDERAL EXPENDITURES FUND TOTAL	<u>\$0</u>	<u>\$218,379</u>

**Sec. 3. Effective date.** This Act takes effect July 1, 2026.