

Janet T. Mills
Governor

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Commissioner



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March 29, 2023

Senator Joseph Baldacci, Chair
Representative Michele Meyer, Chair
Members, Joint Standing Committee on Health and Human Services
100 State House Station
Augusta, ME 04333-0100

Re: LD 473 – *Resolve, to Expand the Eligibility for and Increase the Number of Hours of Applied Behavior Analysis Services Authorized by the MaineCare Program*

Senator Baldacci, Representative Meyer, and Members of the Joint Standing Committee on Health and Human Services:

This letter is to provide information neither for nor against LD 473, *Resolve, to Expand the Eligibility for and Increase the Number of Hours of Applied Behavior Analysis Services Authorized by the MaineCare Program*.

This bill proposes the maximum number of reimbursable hours for applied behavior analysis (ABA) services for adults with Intellectual Disabilities or Autism Spectrum Disorder be increased to 120 hours under Ch. III, Sections 21 and 29 of the MaineCare benefits manual.

ABA services are currently billable under Sec 21 only under the general Behavioral Consult code (G9007 HI) subject to a 16.5 hour annual limit per policy. The Office of Aging and Disability Services does not currently receive specific requests for ABA services; requests are made in general for consultation services to assist with supporting individuals who require additional behavioral health supports or analysis.

As written, this bill targets and requests expansion of one type of treatment (ABA); more data is needed to determine if this expansion is necessary to meet the needs of waiver participants. System changes, Section 21 and 29 rulemakings, and 1915(c) waiver amendments would be required to add the new covered service.

If you have any questions, please feel free to contact me.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Michelle Probert".

Michelle Probert
Director
MaineCare Services