

STATE OF MAINE

—
IN THE YEAR OF OUR LORD
TWO THOUSAND TWENTY-ONE

—
H.P. 793 - L.D. 1064

An Act To Advance Palliative Care Utilization in the State

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

Sec. 1. 22 MRSA §3174-FFF is enacted to read:

§3174-FFF. Palliative care reimbursement

1. Reimbursement. The department shall provide reimbursement under the MaineCare program for palliative care for the entire interdisciplinary team as appropriate to the plan of care, regardless of setting, including hospitals, nursing homes, outpatient clinics and home care providers. For the purposes of this section, "palliative care" has the same meaning as in section 1726.

2. Rules. The department shall adopt rules to implement this section. The rules must include, but are not limited to, reimbursement policies and quality control measures that ensure and promote high-value palliative care under the MaineCare program. The department shall use national standards for quality palliative care in the development of the rules. Rules adopted pursuant to this subsection are routine technical rules as defined in Title 5, chapter 375, subchapter 2-A.

3. Stakeholder group. The department shall periodically convene a stakeholder group that includes the Palliative Care and Quality of Life Interdisciplinary Advisory Council established in Title 5, section 12004-I, subsection 47-I and representatives of organizations representing palliative care, home care and hospice providers to advise the department on educational materials and outreach related to this section.

Sec. 2. Rulemaking; national standards. In developing rules pursuant to the Maine Revised Statutes, Title 22, section 3174-FFF, subsection 2, the Department of Health and Human Services shall consider national standards such as the Clinical Practice Guidelines for Quality Palliative Care developed by the National Coalition for Hospice and Palliative Care.

Sec. 3. State plan amendment. The Department of Health and Human Services shall submit to the United States Department of Health and Human Services, Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services any state plan amendments necessary to implement the requirements of the Maine Revised Statutes, Title 22, section 3174-FFF.