

FY 2026-2027 Biennial Budget (LD 210) - HHS Committee Programs - LANGUAGE

Line #	Part	SUMMARY	Notes	SORT CLASS	Lang Page	HHS VOTE	AFA VOTE
482	RR	This Part increases the per gallon fee, assessed at the manufacturer or wholesaler level, from \$0.25 to \$0.75 to support the Lead Position Prevention Fund.	See Line #: 472-473	Public Health	89	IN 8-5	
483	SS	This Part establishes a per prescription assessment on pharmacy providers.	See Line #: 378-383	MaineCare Prescription Drugs	90	OUT 13-0	
484	TT	This Part establishes a tax on ambulance providers of 6%. Funds must be credited to the Department of Health and Human Services to be used for MaineCare provider payments.	See Line #: 371-372	MaineCare Other Providers - EMS	90	OUT 13-0	
485	UU	<p>This Part simplifies and consolidates statutory language that relates to the adjustment of MaineCare reimbursement into the MaineCare rate reform statute under 22 M.R.S.A. 3173-J, and stipulates that such adjustments are subject to available appropriations. This includes repeal of the requirement for including a regional inflation adjustment in the calculation of nursing facility rates and the requirement for rebasing of nursing facility rates every two years. It also clarifies reimbursement adjustment and rebasing for essential worker reimbursement to be under and consistent with 22 M.R.S.A. 3173-J.</p> <p>It establishes exceptions to the rate setting process for rate adjustments required by law, payments authorized by the federal government in urgent circumstances, or rate reductions resulting from budget short falls. It permits comparative benchmarking to occur on a schedule consistent with that required by federal law and regulation. It also defines how inflation and cost of living indices should be used when establishing and implementing cost-of-living adjustments in order to provide for greater budget predictability.</p> <p>This Part also repeals the requirement that the department must adopt a rule specifying a cost-of-living adjustment methodology, and allows the department to establish rules under this section that incorporate by reference sources in addition to those permitted by Title 5, chapter 375, subchapter 2, section 8056(1)(B)(1), and exempting these rules from the requirements of Title 5, chapter 375, subchapter 2, section 8056(1)(B)(2)-(4).</p> <p>It also defines a process for prioritizing rate adjustments when funds are limited. It removes a second representative of the Department of Professional and Financial Regulation from the MaineCare Rate Reform Expert Technical Advisory Panel, further defines the scope of the panel's review, and reduces the minimum frequency of meetings to once annually.</p>		MaineCare COLA	93	AMD 8-5	
486	VV	This Part repeals the hardship exception that allows access to state-funded SNAP benefits and state-funded TANF benefits for individuals who have obtained proper work documentation but are unemployed.		Public Assistance	103	OUT 8-5	

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487	WW	This part allows the department to assess a fee on Maine hospitals based on the number of inpatient beds, up to a total assessment collection of \$1,800,000 per fiscal year, to support Health Information Technology initiatives. It also establishes the Health Information Technology fund to collect and disperse these fees.	See Line #: 346-347	MaineCare Hospitals	104	IN 8-5	
488	XX	This Part clarifies the licensing fees and terms for agencies that provide services to adults with certain conditions pursuant to PL 2023 c. 89, An Act to Authorize the Department of Health and Human Services to License Home-based and Community-based Services for Persons with an Intellectual Disability, Autism Spectrum Disorder or a Related Condition or an Acquired Brain Injury and Define Autism Spectrum Disorder.		Developmental Services	104	IN 13-0	
489	YY	This Part repeals the conflicted crisis receiving center’s language, and for the language approved in PL 2023, chapter 675, replaces the word severity with acuity.		Adult BH	105	IN 13-0	
490	ZZ	This Part authorizes the Department of Health and Human Services to transfer by financial order available Personal Services balances in the Disproportionate Share - Dorothea Dix Psychiatric Center program, the Disproportionate Share - Riverview Psychiatric Center program and the Riverview Psychiatric Center program in order to provide flexibility in the payment of operational expenses.		Adult BH	106	IN 13-0	
491	AAA	This Part authorizes the Department of Health and Human Services to transfer by financial order available All Other balances from any account within the Department of Health and Human Services, excluding balances in the IV-E Foster Care/Adoption Assistance and State funded Foster Care/Adoption Assistance programs for the purpose of the information system modernization project in the Office of Aging and Disability Services.		Children's Services	106	IN 13-0	
492	BBB	This Part authorizes the Department of Health and Human Services to transfer appropriations within the Office of Child and Family Services related to the cost of administering the child welfare program.		Children's Services	107	IN 13-0	
493	CCC	This Part authorizes the Department of Health and Human Services to transfer available balances of Personal Services appropriations to All Other in the Office for Family Independence program and the Office for Family Independence – District program for the 2026-2027 biennium.		Public Assistance	107	IN 13-0	
494	DDD	This Part allows the Department of Health and Human Services, Office for Family Independence program to carry up to \$1,217,885 to meet technology development and testing obligations, as required by Public Law 2023, chapter 412.		Public Assistance	108	IN 13-0	

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495	EEE	<p>This part allows the Department to transfer funds that are available as part of the increased 10% Federal Medical Assistance Percentage for MaineCare home and community-based services per the federal American Rescue Plan Act of 2021, Public Law 117-2, Section 9817 from the General Fund and Other Special Revenue Funds to the Medical Care - Payments to Providers program, Home and Community Based Services - ARP Savings Other Special Revenue Funds account and the Office of MaineCare Services program, Home and Community Based Services Admin - ARP Savings Other Special Revenue Funds account within the Department of Health and Human Services.</p> <p>It also allows the Department to transfer funds via financial order between the Medical Care - Payments to Providers program, Home and Community Based Services - ARP Savings Other Special Revenue Funds account and the Office of MaineCare Services program, Home and Community Based Services Admin - ARP Savings Other Special Revenue Funds account within the Department of Health and Human Services.</p>		Developmental Services	108	IN 13-0	
496	FFF	This Part allows the transfer from the unencumbered balance forward to the All Other line category in the Office of MaineCare Services program, General Fund to be used for the Medicaid Enterprise System modernization project.		MaineCare Admin	109	IN 13-0	
497	GGG	This Part authorizes the Department of Health and Human Services to transfer available balances of appropriations between the MaineCare General Fund accounts for the 2026-2027 biennium.		MaineCare Admin	109	IN 13-0	
498	HHH	This Part lapses \$1,500,000 from the Maine Background Check Program, Other Special Revenue Funds account to the unappropriated surplus of the General Fund no later than June 30, 2026.		DHHS Mgmt Policy	110	IN 13-0	
499	III	This Part authorizes the Department of Health and Human Services to adopt emergency rules to implement any provisions of this Act over which it has specific authority that has not been addressed by some other Part of the Act without the necessity of demonstrating that immediate adoption is necessary to avoid a threat to public health, safety or welfare.		DHHS Mgmt Policy	110	IN 13-0	
500	JJJ	This Part carries forward any unexpended balance remaining of the \$1,900,000 appropriated in Public Law 2023, chapter 643 for the establishment of 2 behavioral health crisis receiving centers in Androscoggin and Penobscot counties to fiscal year 2025-26.		Adult BH	111	IN 13-0	