



128th MAINE LEGISLATURE

FIRST REGULAR SESSION-2017

Legislative Document

No. 1436

H.P. 991

House of Representatives, April 13, 2017

**Resolve, To Reduce MaineCare Spending through Targeted
Nutrition Interventions**

Reference to the Committee on Health and Human Services suggested and ordered printed.

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "R B. Hunt".

ROBERT B. HUNT
Clerk

Presented by Representative HAMANN of South Portland.
Cosponsored by Senator GRATWICK of Penobscot and
Representatives: DENNO of Cumberland, FECTION of Biddeford, HICKMAN of Winthrop,
MADIGAN of Waterville, PARKER of South Berwick.

1 **Sec. 1. Department of Health and Human Services to seek demonstration**
2 **waiver. Resolved:** That the Department of Health and Human Services shall file an
3 application with the United States Department of Health and Human Services, Centers for
4 Medicare and Medicaid Services to request a demonstration waiver under the federal
5 Social Security Act, Section 1115 to allow medically tailored food and nutrition
6 interventions to be a reimbursable covered service. Medically tailored food and nutrition
7 interventions may be used when a health care provider determines that certain elements
8 of nutrition or foods based upon a nutrition plan developed by a licensed dietitian are
9 necessary for a patient's health. The determination by the health care provider may be for
10 reasons of preventive health care or to support treatment for a patient, may be for a
11 patient who is homebound and unable to prepare nutritious foods and is at a high risk for
12 admission or readmission to a health care facility or may be to assist in a patient's health
13 outcome; and be it further

14 **Sec. 2. Report. Resolved:** That the Department of Health and Human Services
15 shall report annually for 5 years by January 1st to the joint standing committee of the
16 Legislature having jurisdiction over health and human services matters on the use of
17 services provided under a demonstration waiver under section 1, including how many
18 individuals have qualified for a nutrition intervention under section 1 and the duration of
19 and conditions treated under the nutrition intervention. The report must also include data
20 on hospital readmission rates for 2 categories of individuals with similar health
21 conditions: individuals who have received nutrition interventions and individuals who
22 have not received nutrition interventions; and be it further

23 **Sec. 3. Department of Health and Human Services to file application for**
24 **home-delivered meal coverage. Resolved:** That the Department of Health and
25 Human Services shall file the application by October 1, 2017 with the United States
26 Department of Health and Human Services, Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services
27 to request that home-delivered meals be reimbursable under MaineCare as directed by
28 Resolve 2015, chapter 54.

29 **SUMMARY**

30 This resolve directs the Department of Health and Human Services to file an
31 application with the United States Department of Health and Human Services, Centers for
32 Medicare and Medicaid Services for a demonstration waiver to allow for reimbursement
33 of medically tailored food and nutrition interventions when a health care provider
34 determines that certain elements of nutrition or foods based upon a nutrition plan
35 developed by a licensed dietitian are necessary for a patient's health. This resolve also
36 directs the Department of Health and Human Services to file the application by October
37 1, 2017 with the United States Department of Health and Human Services, Centers for
38 Medicare and Medicaid Services to request that home-delivered meals be reimbursable
39 under MaineCare as directed by Resolve 2015, chapter 54.