



# 127th MAINE LEGISLATURE

## FIRST REGULAR SESSION-2015

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Legislative Document

No. 969

S.P. 341

In Senate, March 17, 2015

### **An Act To Preserve Jobs and Primary Care Services in Rural and Underserved Areas of Maine**

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

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Heather J.R. Priest".

HEATHER J.R. PRIEST  
Secretary of the Senate

Presented by Senator KATZ of Kennebec.  
Cosponsored by Representative MARTIN of Eagle Lake and  
Senators: ALFOND of Cumberland, McCORMICK of Kennebec, ROSEN of Hancock,  
President THIBODEAU of Waldo, WHITTEMORE of Somerset, Representatives: Speaker  
EVES of North Berwick, GATTINE of Westbrook, MALABY of Hancock.

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

2 **Sec. 1. 22 MRSA §259, sub-§1**, as amended by PL 2001, c. 667, Pt. C, §12, is  
3 further amended to read:

4 **1. Support for federally qualified health centers.** The department shall provide  
5 support for federally qualified health centers as follows:

6 A. Seventy-five thousand dollars in fiscal years 2001-02 and 2002-03 as the state  
7 Medicaid match to contract for Medicaid outstationing services at federally qualified  
8 health centers; ~~and~~

9 B. Six hundred ninety-nine thousand, one hundred fifty dollars in fiscal year 2001-02  
10 to federally qualified health centers to support the infrastructure of these programs in  
11 providing primary care services to underserved populations. Forty-four thousand,  
12 two hundred fifty dollars must be provided to each federally qualified health center  
13 with an additional \$8,850 for the 2nd and each additional site operated by a federally  
14 qualified health center. For the purposes of this paragraph, "site" means a site or sites  
15 operated by the federally qualified health center within its scope of service that meet  
16 all health center requirements, including providing primary care services, regardless  
17 of patients' ability to pay, 5 days a week with extended hours. If there is not  
18 sufficient funding to meet the formula in this paragraph, the \$699,150 must be  
19 allocated in proportion to the formula outlined in this paragraph; ~~and~~

20 C. One million, five hundred thousand dollars, beginning with fiscal year 2015-16  
21 and continuing each fiscal year thereafter, to support access to primary medical,  
22 behavioral health and dental services to residents of the State in rural and underserved  
23 communities and to assist with provider recruitment and retention. Twenty-five  
24 thousand dollars must be provided to each federally qualified health center, with an  
25 additional \$5,000 to a federally qualified health center that has at least one site  
26 certified by a nationally recognized committee for quality assurance. For the  
27 purposes of this paragraph, "site" means a site or sites operated by the federally  
28 qualified health center within its scope of service that meet all health center  
29 requirements, including providing primary care services, regardless of patients' ability  
30 to pay, 5 days a week with extended hours. Any funds remaining from the  
31 appropriated \$1,500,000 must be distributed among the centers proportionally, based  
32 on the percentage of the total number of uninsured patients served at the State's  
33 federally qualified health centers. The uninsured patient information must come from  
34 the standard annual reporting required by the United States Department of Health and  
35 Human Services, Health Resources and Services Administration, which oversees  
36 federally qualified health centers.

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

39 **HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES, DEPARTMENT OF**  
40 **Purchased Social Services 0228**

1 Initiative: Provides for funding for the State's federally qualified health centers to support  
2 access to primary medical, behavioral health and dental services for residents in rural and  
3 underserved communities, as well as to assist with provider recruitment and retention.

4

5	<b>GENERAL FUND</b>	<b>2015-16</b>	<b>2016-17</b>
6	All Other	\$1,500,000	\$1,500,000
7			
8	GENERAL FUND TOTAL	<u>\$1,500,000</u>	<u>\$1,500,000</u>

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### SUMMARY

10 This bill provides for the allocation of funding among Maine's federally qualified  
11 health centers to support access to primary medical, behavioral health and dental services  
12 for residents in rural and underserved communities. This funding is targeted to support  
13 the provision of primary care services for the uninsured and underinsured, as well as to  
14 assist with provider recruitment and retention.