

Date:

(Filing No. H-)

HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES

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**STATE OF MAINE
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
129TH LEGISLATURE
FIRST REGULAR SESSION**

COMMITTEE AMENDMENT “ ” to H.P. 462, L.D. 633, Bill, “An Act To Create a Permanent Navigator Position within the Department of Health and Human Services”

Amend the bill by striking out the title and substituting the following:

'An Act To Create a Kinship Care Navigator Program within the Department of Health and Human Services'

Amend the bill by striking out everything after the enacting clause and inserting the following:

'Sec. 1. 22 MRSA c. 1065 is enacted to read:

CHAPTER 1065

KINSHIP CARE NAVIGATOR PROGRAM

§3931. Kinship care navigator program

1. Kinship care defined. As used in this section, unless the context otherwise indicates, "kinship care" means the care of a child on a temporary or permanent basis, by a person who is not the child's parent but who is either a relative or a person who has a close relationship with the child, whether or not the department was involved with the placement of the child with the person.

2. Program established. The kinship care navigator program, referred to in this chapter as "the program," is established within the department to provide resources and information to persons providing kinship care to children in the State. The commissioner shall designate one person to administer the program.

3. Services. The program may:

A. Identify and coordinate existing resources available to persons providing kinship care to children;

1 B. Develop collaborative working relationships with state agencies, social services
 2 agencies and other organizations serving persons providing kinship care to children;
 3 and

4 C. Provide to persons providing kinship care to children referrals to available
 5 resources and information about the means of obtaining services from the
 6 department.

7 **Sec. 2. Appropriations and allocations.** The following appropriations and
 8 allocations are made.

9 **HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES, DEPARTMENT OF**
 10 **Office of Child and Family Services - Central 0307**

11 Initiative: Provides one Social Services Program Manager position to administer all
 12 issues related to the placement of a child with a relative.

13 GENERAL FUND	2019-20	2020-21
14 POSITIONS - LEGISLATIVE COUNT	1.000	1.000
15 Personal Services	\$69,786	\$72,343
16 All Other	\$4,606	\$4,606
17		
18 GENERAL FUND TOTAL	\$74,392	\$76,949

19 OTHER SPECIAL REVENUE FUNDS	2019-20	2020-21
20 Personal Services	\$27,139	\$28,133
21 All Other	\$3,222	\$3,271
22		
23 OTHER SPECIAL REVENUE FUNDS TOTAL	\$30,361	\$31,404
24		

25 Amend the bill by relettering or renumbering any nonconsecutive Part letter or
 26 section number to read consecutively.

27 **SUMMARY**

28 This amendment, which is the unanimous report of the committee, replaces the bill.
 29 It establishes within the Department of Health and Human Services the kinship care
 30 navigator program to provide resources and information to persons providing kinship care
 31 to children in the State. It requires the Commissioner of Health and Human Services to
 32 designate one person to administer the program. It also adds an appropriations and
 33 allocations section.

34 **FISCAL NOTE REQUIRED**

35 **(See attached)**