

126th MAINE LEGISLATURE

FIRST REGULAR SESSION-2013

Legislative Document

No. 387

H.P. 262

House of Representatives, February 12, 2013

Resolve, To Direct the Department of Health and Human Services To Assist Individuals with Intellectual Disabilities with Home Support

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

Millicent M. Mac Jarland

MILLICENT M. MacFARLAND Clerk

Presented by Representative FARNSWORTH of Portland. Cosponsored by Senator CRAVEN of Androscoggin and Representatives: BRIGGS of Mexico, BROOKS of Winterport, PETERSON of Rumford, SANBORN of Gorham, STUCKEY of Portland, WELSH of Rockport, Senator: LACHOWICZ of Kennebec. 1 Sec. 1. Department of Health and Human Services to study issues 2 surrounding home and community-based waiver program to provide 3 assistance for individuals with intellectual disabilities. Resolved: That the 4 Department of Health and Human Services shall study the issues surrounding the home and community-based waiver program under the United States Department of Health and 5 Human Services, Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services and locate funding to 6 7 better provide services that allow program participants to meet basic needs for shelter and 8 nourishment, including:

- 9 1. Completing a cost analysis of an average program participant's living costs, 10 including, but not limited to, annual rent or mortgage payments, utilities, food and basic 11 telephone service;
- 12 2. Clarifying the state policies and rules that regulate the ability of program 13 participants and program service providers to negotiate room and board; and
- Analyzing the data collected under subsections 1 and 2 to determine the source of
 appropriate funds that will allow the Department of Health and Human Services through
 following a consistent methodology to assist program participants in meeting basic needs
 for shelter and nourishment; and be it further
- 18 Sec. 2. Commissioner of Health and Human Services to provide 19 necessary regulatory support. Resolved: That the Commissioner of Health and 20 Human Services shall ensure that all of its offices and divisions work in concert to 21 provide necessary regulatory support to locate funding to assist program participants in 22 meeting basic needs for shelter and nourishment; and be it further
- Sec. 3. Report. Resolved: That, no later than January 1, 2014, the Commissioner of Health and Human Services shall submit a report on progress in carrying out the purposes of this resolve, including suggested legislation, to the Joint Standing Committee on Health and Human Services. The Joint Standing Committee on Health and Human Services is authorized to introduce a bill related to the subject matter of the report to the Second Regular Session of the 126th Legislature upon receipt of the report.

SUMMARY

This resolve directs the Department of Health and Human Services to study the issues surrounding the home and community-based waiver program under the United States Department of Health and Human Services, Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services and locate funding to better provide services that allow program participants to meet basic needs for shelter and nourishment.

29