

## **128th MAINE LEGISLATURE**

## **SECOND REGULAR SESSION-2018**

**Legislative Document** 

No. 1868

H.P. 1304

House of Representatives, March 20, 2018

**Resolve, To Increase Funding for Evidence-based Therapies for Treating Emotional and Behavioral Problems in Children** 

(AFTER DEADLINE)

(EMERGENCY)

Approved for introduction by a majority of the Legislative Council pursuant to Joint Rule 205.

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

R(+ B. Hunt

ROBERT B. HUNT Clerk

Presented by Representative MADIGAN of Waterville. Cosponsored by Senator BREEN of Cumberland and Representatives: AUSTIN of Skowhegan, DENNO of Cumberland, DOORE of Augusta, HANDY of Lewiston, HYMANSON of York, MALABY of Hancock, TALBOT ROSS of Portland, WARREN of Hallowell. 1 **Emergency preamble. Whereas,** acts and resolves of the Legislature do not 2 become effective until 90 days after adjournment unless enacted as emergencies; and

Whereas, this legislation needs to take effect before the expiration of the 90-day period because MaineCare reimbursement rates for evidence-based therapies for treating emotional and behavioral problems in children have not been adjusted in 8 years and are insufficient to enable some providers to continue to provide services; and

Whereas, in the judgment of the Legislature, these facts create an emergency within
the meaning of the Constitution of Maine and require the following legislation as
immediately necessary for the preservation of the public peace, health and safety; now,
therefore, be it

11 Sec. 1. Department of Health and Human Services to increase 12 MaineCare reimbursement for outpatient psychosocial treatments for children. Resolved: That the Department of Health and Human Services shall 13 14 increase reimbursement rates under rule Chapter 101: MaineCare Benefits Manual, Chapters II and III, Sections 28, 65 and 97 for evidence-based therapies for treating 15 emotional and behavioral problems in children. These therapies include multisystemic 16 therapy, multisystemic therapy for problem sexualized behavior and functional family 17 therapy. These rates must be sufficient to cover all costs to the provider of delivering the 18 19 services, including additional training, to attract enough providers to clear waiting lists 20 for services and to attract providers to all areas of the State, including underserved rural 21 areas. These rates must be set on a per case per week basis.

Emergency clause. In view of the emergency cited in the preamble, this
 legislation takes effect when approved.

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## SUMMARY

This resolve requires the Department of Health and Human Services to increase the MaineCare reimbursement rates for evidence-based therapies for treating emotional and behavioral problems in children to rates that cover all costs to the provider of delivering the services, including additional training, clear waiting lists and attract providers to all areas of the State, including underserved rural areas. These rates must be set on a per case per week basis.