



# 130th MAINE LEGISLATURE

## FIRST REGULAR SESSION-2021

---

Legislative Document

No. 510

---

H.P. 373

House of Representatives, February 19, 2021

**Resolve, To Reduce Stigma Regarding Substance Use Disorder by  
Requiring the Use of Respectful Language in the MaineCare  
Benefits Manual and Other Department of Health and Human  
Services Publications**

---

Received by the Clerk of the House on February 17, 2021. Referred to the Committee on Health and Human Services pursuant to Joint Rule 308.2 and ordered printed pursuant to Joint Rule 401.

Handwritten signature of Robert B. Hunt in cursive.

ROBERT B. HUNT  
Clerk

Presented by Representative McCREIGHT of Harpswell.  
Cosponsored by Senator DAUGHTRY of Cumberland and  
Representatives: CRAVEN of Lewiston, GRAMLICH of Old Orchard Beach, MEYER of  
Eliot, STOVER of Boothbay, Senators: CURRY of Waldo, MOORE of Washington.

1           **Sec. 1. Department of Health and Human Services publication review.**  
2     **Resolved:** That the Department of Health and Human Services shall review the  
3     MaineCare Benefits Manual and other department publications and replace references to  
4     "substance abuse" with "substance use disorder" and shall ensure that language relating to  
5     persons with substance use disorder is consistent with respectful, "person first" language.

6                                    **SUMMARY**

7           This resolve directs the Department of Health and Human Services to review the  
8     MaineCare Benefits Manual and other department publications and replace references to  
9     "substance abuse" with "substance use disorder" and to ensure that language relating to  
10    persons with substance use disorder is consistent with respectful, "person first" language.