

STATE OF MAINE

IN THE YEAR OF OUR LORD  
TWO THOUSAND TWENTY-TWO

S.P. 352 - L.D. 1091

**An Act To Improve the Long-term Outcomes for Youth Transitioning from State Care by Raising the Upper Age Limit for Voluntary Support Eligibility**

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

**Sec. 1. 22 MRSA §4010-C, sub-§1**, as enacted by PL 2013, c. 577, §1, is amended to read:

**1. Age; enrollment in postsecondary education institution.** In order to be eligible to participate in the program, an individual must be at least ~~21~~ 23 years of age but less than 27 years of age, must have exited the voluntary extended care and support agreement with the State under section 4037-A at ~~21~~ 23 years of age and must be enrolled in a postsecondary education institution.

**Sec. 2. 22 MRSA §4037-A, sub-§1**, as amended by PL 2021, c. 535, §1, is further amended to read:

**1. Extended care requirements.** A person who is 18, 19 ~~or~~ 20, 21 or 22 years of age and who attained 18 years of age while in the care and custody of the department may continue to receive care and support if the person:

- A. Is enrolled in secondary school or its equivalent or is enrolled in postsecondary or career and technical school;
- B. Is participating in a program or activity that promotes employment or removes barriers to employment;
- C. Is employed for at least 80 hours per month; or
- D. Is found to be in special circumstances, including but not limited to being incapable of qualifying under paragraphs A to C due to a documented medical or behavioral health condition.

**Sec. 3. Appropriations and allocations.** The following appropriations and allocations are made.

**HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES, DEPARTMENT OF  
State-funded Foster Care/Adoption Assistance 0139**

Initiative: Provides funding to raise the upper age limit from 20 years of age to 22 years of age for voluntary participation in extended care for persons who attained 18 years of age while in the care and custody of the State.

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|--|----------------|-----------------|
| <b>GENERAL FUND</b>                    | <b>2021-22</b> | <b>2022-23</b>  |
| All Other                              | \$0            | \$351,284       |
| <b>GENERAL FUND TOTAL</b>              | <hr/> \$0      | <hr/> \$351,284 |
| <br>                                   |                |                 |
| <b>FEDERAL EXPENDITURES FUND</b>       | <b>2021-22</b> | <b>2022-23</b>  |
| All Other                              | \$0            | \$308,405       |
| <b>FEDERAL EXPENDITURES FUND TOTAL</b> | <hr/> \$0      | <hr/> \$308,405 |