

PLEASE NOTE: Legislative Information **cannot** perform research, provide legal advice, or interpret Maine law. For legal assistance, please contact a qualified attorney.

## **An Act To Ensure Services for Adults with Developmental Disabilities**

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

**Sec. 1. 34-B MRSA §5003-A, sub-§2, ¶F,** as enacted by PL 2007, c. 356, §16 and affected by §31, is amended to read:

F. Strive toward having a sufficient number of personnel who are qualified and experienced to provide treatment that is beneficial to persons with mental retardation or autism; and

**Sec. 2. 34-B MRSA §5003-A, sub-§2, ¶G,** as enacted by PL 2007, c. 356, §16 and affected by §31, is amended to read:

G. Encourage other departments to provide to persons with mental retardation or autism those services that are required by law, and in particular:

(1) The commissioner shall work actively with the Commissioner of Education to ensure that persons with mental retardation or autism receive appropriate services upon being diagnosed with either disability regardless of the degree of retardation or autism or accompanying disabilities or handicaps;

(2) The commissioner shall advise other departments about standards and policies pertaining to administration, staff, quality of care, quality of treatment, health and safety of clients, rights of clients, community relations and licensing procedures and other areas that affect persons with mental retardation or autism residing in facilities licensed by the department; and

(3) The commissioner shall inform the joint standing committee of the Legislature having jurisdiction over human resources matters about areas where increased cooperation by other departments is necessary in order to improve the delivery of services to persons with mental retardation or autism; and

**Sec. 3. 34-B MRSA §5003-A, sub-§2, ¶H** is enacted to read:

H. Provide health coverage through the MaineCare program under Title 22, chapter 855 for an adult with mental retardation or autism who is an incapacitated person who is financially eligible for the program.

## **SUMMARY**

This bill requires the Department of Health and Human Services to provide health coverage under the MaineCare program for an adult with mental retardation or autism who is incapacitated and financially eligible for MaineCare.