



127th MAINE LEGISLATURE

SECOND REGULAR SESSION-2016

Legislative Document

No. 1616

S.P. 654

In Senate, March 1, 2016

An Act To Expand Geropsychiatric Facility Capacity

Reported by Senator BRAKEY of Androscoggin for the Joint Standing Committee on Health and Human Services pursuant to Joint Order 2016, S.P. 639.

Reference to the Committee on Health and Human Services suggested and ordered printed pursuant to Joint Rule 218.

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Heather J.R. Priest".

HEATHER J.R. PRIEST
Secretary of the Senate

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

2 **Sec. 1. Department of Health and Human Services to expand**
3 **geropsychiatric beds.** Notwithstanding the Maine Revised Statutes, Title 22, section
4 333-A, the Department of Health and Human Services shall increase the number of
5 geropsychiatric beds in the State by up to 25 beds. The Department of Health and Human
6 Services may determine whether the new beds are nursing facility beds, private
7 nonmedical institution beds or a combination of both. The beds must be made available
8 in areas that are currently underserved in the State, including at least some of the beds to
9 be available in the northern part of the State.

10 **Sec. 2. Appropriations and allocations.** The following appropriations and
11 allocations are made.

12 **HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES, DEPARTMENT OF (FORMERLY DHS)**

13 **Nursing Facilities 0148**

14 Initiative: Provides funding to increase the number of geropsychiatric beds in the State by
15 up to 25 beds.

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17	GENERAL FUND	2015-16	2016-17
18	All Other	\$0	\$1,192,227
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20	GENERAL FUND TOTAL	<hr/>	<hr/>
		\$0	\$1,192,227

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22	FEDERAL EXPENDITURES FUND	2015-16	2016-17
23	All Other	\$0	\$2,001,523
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25	FEDERAL EXPENDITURES FUND TOTAL	<hr/>	<hr/>
		\$0	\$2,001,523

26 **SUMMARY**

27 This bill, which is a recommendation of the Commission To Study Difficult-to-place
28 Patients, requires the Department of Health and Human Services to increase the number
29 of geropsychiatric beds by up to 25 beds. The beds may be in nursing facilities, private
30 nonmedical institutions or a combination of both. The beds must be made available in
31 underserved parts of the State, some specifically to be made available in the northern part
32 of the State. The beds are funded and therefore are exempt from MaineCare budget
33 neutrality provisions.