



130th MAINE LEGISLATURE

FIRST REGULAR SESSION-2021

Legislative Document

No. 727

H.P. 538

House of Representatives, March 5, 2021

**Resolve, To Ensure the Health and Wellness of Older Residents of
the State**

Received by the Clerk of the House on March 3, 2021. Referred to the Committee on Health and Human Services pursuant to Joint Rule 308.2 and ordered printed pursuant to Joint Rule 401.

A handwritten signature in cursive script, reading "R B. Hunt".

ROBERT B. HUNT
Clerk

Presented by Representative TALBOT ROSS of Portland.

Sec. 1. Department of Health and Human Services to seek waiver.

Resolved: That the Department of Health and Human Services shall submit a request to the United States Department of Agriculture to waive the requirements for an asset test for determining the eligibility of any household under the federal supplemental nutrition assistance program when the household includes an individual who is 60 years of age or older.

Sec. 2. Home-delivered meals pilot project. Resolved: That, no later than

January 1, 2022, the Department of Health and Human Services shall submit an application to the United States Department of Health and Human Services, Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services to request a demonstration waiver under the federal Social Security Act, Section 1115 to develop a 2-year pilot project pursuant to the Maine Revised Statutes, Title 22-A, section 203, subsection 5 to provide home-delivered meals to individuals who are 60 years of age or older and who are homebound or at risk for readmission to a health care facility. The pilot project under the waiver is limited to individuals being released from a health care facility at high risk of readmission who have received a doctor's recommendation that medically tailored food and nutrition interventions are necessary for the patient's health. Patients being offered medically tailored food and nutrition interventions through the pilot project may receive one meal per day for up to 14 days. The Department of Health and Human Services shall submit a report no later than July 1, 2024 on the results of the pilot project, including, but not limited to, the number of individuals served by the pilot project; the number of home-delivered meals provided; health care facility readmission rates of those served; and recommendations for continuing the pilot project to the joint standing committee of the Legislature having jurisdiction over health and human services matters at the conclusion of the pilot project.

SUMMARY

This resolve directs the Department of Health and Human Services to request the United States Department of Agriculture to waive the asset test for determining the eligibility for the federal supplemental nutrition assistance program of any household in which there is an individual who is 60 years of age or older. It also directs the department to develop a pilot project to provide home-delivered meals to individuals who are 60 years of age or older and who are homebound or at risk for readmission to a health care facility. It requires the department to report to the joint standing committee of the Legislature having jurisdiction over health and human services matters at the conclusion of the pilot project.