



131st MAINE LEGISLATURE

FIRST REGULAR SESSION-2023

Legislative Document

No. 898

H.P. 554

House of Representatives, February 28, 2023

**Resolve, to Increase the Reimbursement Rate for Foster Parents by
20 Percent**

(EMERGENCY)

Reference to the Committee on Health and Human Services suggested and ordered printed.

A handwritten signature in black ink, reading "R B. Hunt".

ROBERT B. HUNT
Clerk

Presented by Representative COLLINGS of Portland.
Cosponsored by President JACKSON of Aroostook and
Representatives: CRAFTS of Newcastle, CRAVEN of Lewiston, GATTINE of Westbrook,
GRAHAM of North Yarmouth, MADIGAN of Waterville, O'CONNELL of Brewer, WHITE
of Waterville.

Emergency preamble. Whereas, acts and resolves of the Legislature do not become effective until 90 days after adjournment unless enacted as emergencies; and

Whereas, foster parents serve an essential role in our society, and the State imminently needs more foster parents; and

Whereas, current reimbursement rates are inadequate to encourage more individuals to serve as foster parents; and

Whereas, increasing reimbursement rates as soon as possible will encourage more individuals to serve as foster parents; and

Whereas, in the judgment of the Legislature, these facts create an emergency within the meaning of the Constitution of Maine and require the following legislation as immediately necessary for the preservation of the public peace, health and safety; now, therefore, be it

Sec. 1. Department of Health and Human Services to increase foster care reimbursement rates. Resolved: That the Department of Health and Human Services shall amend its rule 10-148 C.M.R. Chapter 14, Section 4 to increase by 20% more than the reimbursement rates that were in effect January 1, 2023 the reimbursement rates for Level of Care A - Basic Care - Minimal Needs, Level of Care B - Basic Care - Mild Needs, Level of Care C - Treatment Care - Moderate Needs, Level of Care D - Treatment Care - High Needs, Level of Care D - Basic or Treatment Care - Exceptional Medical Care and Level of Care E - Treatment Care - Severe Needs.

Emergency clause. In view of the emergency cited in the preamble, this legislation takes effect when approved.

SUMMARY

This resolve directs the Department of Health and Human Services to amend its rules to increase the reimbursement rates for foster parents for all foster care levels of care by 20%.