



129th MAINE LEGISLATURE

FIRST REGULAR SESSION-2019

Legislative Document

No. 474

S.P. 138

In Senate, January 29, 2019

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

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

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "D M Grant", is positioned above the printed name of the Secretary of the Senate.

DAREK M. GRANT
Secretary of the Senate

Presented by Senator SANBORN, L. of Cumberland.
Cosponsored by Representative PIERCE of Falmouth and
Senators: BELLOWS of Kennebec, GRATWICK of Penobscot, MOORE of Washington,
Representative: HUBBELL of Bar Harbor.

1 **Sec. 1. Department of Health and Human Services to seek waiver.**
2 **Resolved:** That the Department of Health and Human Services shall submit a request to
3 the United States Department of Agriculture to waive the requirements for an asset test
4 for determining the eligibility of any household under the federal supplemental nutrition
5 assistance program when the household includes an individual who is 60 years of age or
6 older.

7 **Sec. 2. Home-delivered meals pilot project. Resolved:** That, no later than
8 January 1, 2020, the Department of Health and Human Services shall submit an
9 application to the United States Department of Health and Human Services, Centers for
10 Medicare and Medicaid Services to request a demonstration waiver under the federal
11 Social Security Act, Section 1115 to develop a 2-year pilot project pursuant to the Maine
12 Revised Statutes, Title 22-A, section 203, subsection 5 to provide home-delivered meals
13 to individuals who are 60 years of age or older and who are homebound or at risk for
14 readmission to a health care facility. The program under the waiver is limited to
15 individuals being released from a health care facility at high risk of readmission and have
16 received a doctor's recommendation that medically tailored food and nutrition
17 interventions are necessary for the patient's health. Patients being offered medically
18 tailored food and nutrition interventions may receive one meal per day for up to 14 days.
19 The Department of Health and Human Services shall submit a report no later than July 1,
20 2022 on the results of the pilot project, including, but not limited to, the number of
21 individuals served by the pilot project; the number of home-delivered meals provided;
22 health care facility readmission rates of those served; and recommendations for
23 continuing the pilot project to the joint standing committee of the Legislature having
24 jurisdiction over health and human services matters at the conclusion of the pilot project.

25 **Sec. 3. Appropriations and allocations. Resolved:** That the following
26 appropriations and allocations are made.

27 **HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES, DEPARTMENT OF**

28 **Medical Care - Payments to Providers 0147**

29 Initiative: Provides funds for reimbursement for 2 weeks of medically tailored food and
30 nutrition interventions for certain individuals at high risk of readmission to a health care
31 facility.

32	GENERAL FUND	2019-20	2020-21
33	All Other	\$20,365	\$27,153
34			
35	GENERAL FUND TOTAL	\$20,365	\$27,153

36	FEDERAL EXPENDITURES FUND	2019-20	2020-21
37	All Other	\$36,744	\$48,992
38			

1	FEDERAL EXPENDITURES FUND TOTAL	\$36,744	\$48,992
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2 **Office of Aging and Disability Services Central Office 0140**

Initiative: Provides funding to eliminate the waiting list for home-delivered meals to homebound individuals who are over 60 years of age who cannot prepare meals and do not have others available to prepare meals for them.

6	GENERAL FUND	2019-20	2020-21
7	All Other	\$500,000	\$500,000
8			
9	GENERAL FUND TOTAL	<u>\$500,000</u>	<u>\$500,000</u>

10 **HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES,**
11 **DEPARTMENT OF**
12 **DEPARTMENT TOTALS**

13			
14	GENERAL FUND	\$520,365	\$527,153
15	FEDERAL EXPENDITURES FUND	\$36,744	\$48,992
16			
17	DEPARTMENT TOTAL - ALL FUNDS	\$557,109	\$576,145

18 SUMMARY

19 This bill directs the Department of Health and Human Services to request the United
20 States Department of Agriculture to waive the asset test for determining the eligibility for
21 the federal supplemental nutrition assistance program of any household in which there is
22 an individual who is 60 years of age or older. It also directs the department to develop a
23 pilot project to provide home-delivered meals to individuals who are 60 years of age or
24 older and who are homebound or at risk for readmission to a health care facility. It
25 requires the department to report to the joint standing committee of the Legislature
26 having jurisdiction over health and human services matters at the conclusion of the pilot
27 project. The bill also provides funding to eliminate the waiting list for home-delivered
28 meals to homebound individuals who are over 60 years of age who cannot prepare meals
29 and do not have others available to prepare meals for them.