

CPS Legislation Voted by HHS Committee - Live Bills and Laws Signed as of 4/12/2022

Prepared by OPEGA for the Government Oversight Committee

LD #	Title (as Amended)	Summary	HHS Committee Vote	Bill Status/Latest Action
LD 393	New Title: An Act to Improve the child Welfare System (Meyer)	Amendment C-A (H-907) 1) It provides \$1m each year for the homebuilders program, and \$1m each year for the parents as teachers program. 2) It provides \$420,000 per year to increase the contract for kinship navigators. 2) It requires the DHHS to study the ability of the State to allow a parent of a minor child removed from the home but engaged in rehabilitation and reunification services to continue to receive services that the parent was eligible for prior to the child being removed from custody and to receive priority for services that are waitlisted and are critical to allowing families to transition out of the CPS system. Report due to HHS by 2/1/2023. 3) It provides \$200,000 funding in each year to the child protective services contingency fund; requires the annual report to include a summary of expenditures from the contingency fund. 6) It directs the Commissioner to establish a special projects manager position within the department to coordinate the organization of child abuse and neglect prevention initiatives.	OTP-AM/ONTP	Latest House Action: Enacted, 4-7-22 Latest Senate Action: Placed on Appropriations Table, 4-11-22
LD 1824	New Title: Resolve, To Establish the Commission To Develop a Pilot Program To Provide Legal Representation to Families in the Child Protection System (Stover)	Amendment C-A (H-875): This amendment replaces the bill, which is a concept draft, with a resolve that establishes the Commission To Develop a Pilot Program To Provide Legal Representation to Families in the Child Protection System. The commission is required to submit a report, no later than November 2, 2022, with findings and a proposed pilot program, to the JUD and HHS committees.	OTP-AM	Latest House Action: Emergency Finally Passed 110-1, 3-31-22 Latest Senate Action: Placed on Study Table 4-5-22
LD 1825	New Title: An Act To Establish Limits on the Number of Hours Worked by Child Protective Services Caseworkers in the Department of Health and Human Services (Madigan)	Amendment C-A (H-847): This amendment is the majority report of the committee and replaces the bill. The amendment retails the provision of the bill that establishes limits on work hours and driving hours. The amendment adds the ability for a caseworker's supervisor, in consultation with the Commissioner of Health and Human Services or the commissioner's designee, to direct a caseworker to exceed the maximum number of work hours for an emergency situation determined in department policy.	OTP-AM/ONTP	Latest House Action: Engrossed as Amended By CA, 3-29-22 Latest Senate Action: Accepted Report MIN (ONTP) REP, 4-12-22
LD 1850	An Act To Ensure the Continuation of Services to Maine Children and Families through the Alternative Response Program (Hymanson)	Amendment C-A (S-458): This amendment, which is the majority report of the committee, replaces the bill. It provides ongoing funding to provide services according to the Intensive Care Coordination Using High Fidelity Wraparound model, as defined by the U.S. DHHS, Title IV-E Prevention Services Clearinghouse, to families that are identified as part of a child protective investigation. It requires the Department of Health and Human Services to make reasonable efforts to ensure fidelity to the model, including appropriate referrals, and to implement the services to maximize available federal funds, including coordination with other department efforts to implement the model.	OTP-AM/ONTP	Latest House Action: Enacted, 4-12-22 Latest Senate Action: Engrossed as Amended By CA, 4-12-22
LD 1853	New Title: Resolve, to Increase Oversight of the Child Welfare System	Amendment C-A (S-458): This amendment replaces the bill, which is a concept draft. The amendment enacts reporting requirements as follows. 1) The Maine child welfare advisory panel (MCWAP) and the child death and serious injury review panel (CDSIRP) are required to submit quarterly reports to the HHS committee on the child welfare system and efforts to collaborate between the citizen review panels. 2) The DHHS/OCFS is required to submit quarterly reports to the HHS Committee regarding progress in implementing recommendations of the Casey Family Programs/Collaborative Safety report (October 2021), responses to recommendations from the MCWAP and progress in efforts described in the department's annual report on child welfare. 3) HHS Committee is authorized to report out legislation pursuant to any of the reports at the next regular or special session of the Legislature.	OTP-AM	Resolve 2021, chapter 142 (Emergency) Finally Passed, 4-7-22 Signed, 4-7-22
LD 1960	An Act To Make Changes to the Laws Governing the Child Welfare Services Ombudsman Program (Governor's Bill)	Amendment C-A (H-453): This amendment includes the ombudsman or the ombudsman's designee as a member of the child death and serious injury review panel (CSIRP) established by DHHS and requires that the panel, beginning January 1, 2023 and every 2 years thereafter, submit a report on the panel's recommendations to the HHS Committee.	OTP-AM	PL 2021, chapter 550 Enacted, 3-31-22 Signed, 3-31-22