



# 129th MAINE LEGISLATURE

## FIRST REGULAR SESSION-2019

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Legislative Document

No. 463

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H.P. 347

House of Representatives, January 29, 2019

### An Act To Reduce Obesity Rates in Maine

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

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "R B. Hunt".

ROBERT B. HUNT  
Clerk

Presented by Representative PIERCE of Falmouth.  
Cosponsored by Senator SANBORN, L. of Cumberland and  
Representatives: BAILEY of Saco, FECTEAU of Biddeford, HYMANSON of York,  
MARTIN of Sinclair, MASTRACCIO of Sanford, McCREA of Fort Fairfield, McLEAN of  
Gorham, SHARPE of Durham.

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

2 **Sec. 1. 22 MRSA c. 276** is enacted to read:

3 **CHAPTER 276**

4 **OBESITY**

5 **§1700-C. Unhealthy weight and obesity; state plan**

6 **1. Comprehensive state plan.** The Maine Center for Disease Control and  
7 Prevention shall prepare and implement a comprehensive state plan to reduce rates of  
8 unhealthy weight and obesity in the State's adults and children. The state plan must  
9 include at a minimum the following:

10 A. Coordination of the State's efforts within the department to reduce rates of  
11 unhealthy weight and obesity, including any programs funded by the Fund for a  
12 Healthy Maine pursuant to section 1511, subsection 6, paragraph A-1;

13 B. Coordination among state departments, including the Department of Education  
14 and the Department of Agriculture, Conservation and Forestry;

15 C. Strategies to improve efforts to monitor rates of unhealthy weight and obesity,  
16 including a statewide survey of the State's residents relating to food and beverage  
17 consumption and time spent engaged in physical exercise; and

18 D. A media plan to reduce the consumption of beverages the first listed ingredient of  
19 which is sugar or corn syrup.

20 **2. Report.** The Maine Center for Disease Control and Prevention shall submit the  
21 comprehensive state plan required in subsection 1, as well as a report on its progress in  
22 implementing the plan, to the joint standing committee of the Legislature having  
23 jurisdiction over health and human services matters no later than January 1, 2020 and  
24 every 2 years thereafter.

25 **Sec. 2. Appropriations and allocations.** The following appropriations and  
26 allocations are made.

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

28 **Maine Center for Disease Control and Prevention 0143**

29 Initiative: Appropriates funds to develop and implement a comprehensive state plan  
30 relating to the reduction of unhealthy weight and obesity and to improve surveillance and  
31 epidemiology related to obesity.

32			
33	<b>GENERAL FUND</b>	<b>2019-20</b>	<b>2020-21</b>
34	All Other	\$1,400,000	\$1,400,000
35			
36	<b>GENERAL FUND TOTAL</b>	<b>\$1,400,000</b>	<b>\$1,400,000</b>

1 **Maine Center for Disease Control and Prevention 0143**

2 Initiative: Provides funding for one Obesity Care Coordinator position in the Maine  
3 Center for Disease Control and Prevention to coordinate a comprehensive state plan  
4 relating to the reduction of unhealthy weight and obesity.

5

6	<b>GENERAL FUND</b>	<b>2019-20</b>	<b>2020-21</b>
7	POSITIONS - LEGISLATIVE COUNT	1.000	1.000
8	Personal Services	\$80,883	\$83,769
9	All Other	\$6,286	\$6,286
10			
11	GENERAL FUND TOTAL	<u>\$87,169</u>	<u>\$90,055</u>

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13 **HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES,**  
14 **DEPARTMENT OF**  
15 **DEPARTMENT TOTALS**

16		<b>2019-20</b>	<b>2020-21</b>
17	<b>GENERAL FUND</b>	<b>\$1,487,169</b>	<b>\$1,490,055</b>
18			
19	<b>DEPARTMENT TOTAL - ALL FUNDS</b>	<u><b>\$1,487,169</b></u>	<u><b>\$1,490,055</b></u>

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**SUMMARY**

21 This bill requires the Department of Health and Human Services, Maine Center for  
22 Disease Control and Prevention to develop a comprehensive state plan relating to the  
23 reduction of unhealthy weight and obesity. The plan must include coordination of  
24 activities within the Department of Health and Human Services and among state  
25 departments, efforts to monitor rates of unhealthy weight and obesity, including a survey  
26 of food and drink consumption and physical exercise, and a media plan to reduce the  
27 consumption of sugary drinks. The department is required to submit the plan to the joint  
28 standing committee of the Legislature having jurisdiction over health and human services  
29 matters no later than January 1, 2020 and every 2 years thereafter. The bill also includes  
30 a position within the Maine Center for Disease Control and Prevention, or contracted for  
31 by the department, as a coordinator of the state plan. The bill also appropriates funds to  
32 develop and implement the plan, to improve surveillance and epidemiology related to  
33 obesity and to fund one Obesity Care Coordinator position in the Maine Center for  
34 Disease Control and Prevention.