# Maine Veteran's Homes Advocacy Guide

Support for LD 182: An Act to Require the Department of Health and Human Services to Establish MaineCare Reimbursement Rates for the Maine Veterans' Homes on a Per Resident Basis.

## What is LD 182?

LD 182 is a bill that helps make sure Maine Veterans' Homes receive adequate funding from MaineCare (the state's Medicaid program).

Currently, MaineCare reimbursement does not fully cover the real costs of caring for each resident. LD 182 would change this by setting per-resident payment rates based on actual care and service needs.

This funding will help us:

- Continue providing high-quality care to our Veterans
- Hire and retain excellent staff who care for your loved ones
- Maintain programs, activities, and services that enrich residents' lives
- Keep Maine Veterans' Homes strong and open for future generations

LD 182 supports the resources we need to care for your loved ones with the dignity and excellence they deserve.

# **How You Can Help**

Attend the Public Hearing

Date: Tuesday, April 1, 2025

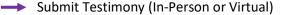
• Time: 1:00 PM

In-Person: Cross Building, 11 Sewall Street, Augusta, Room 209

Virtual: https://legislature.maine.gov/committee/#Committees/HHS

Click this link on the page above:

Live: Cross Building, Room 209



- In-Person: Bring 20 written copies for the clerk. If reading it must be 3 minutes or less.
- Virtual: Pre-register by 12 PM on April 1 here: https://www.mainelegislature.org/testimony/
  - Select Public Hearing
  - Select the Health and Human Services Committee
  - Choose a date: Select Apr 1 2025 1:00PM
  - Choose a bill: LD 182
  - If you will read your testimony during the hearing, check the box "I would like to testify electronically over Zoom. Must be 3 minutes or less.
  - Upload your written testimony
  - Complete your personal information, check "I'm not a robot", and click Submit/Register

## **A**UGUSTA

35 Heroes Way Augusta, ME 04330 (207) 622-2454

## BANGOR

44 HOGAN ROAD BANGOR, ME 04401 (207) 942-2333

## CARIBOU

163 VAN BUREN ROAD CARIBOU, ME 04736 (207) 498-6074

## Machias

32 VETERANS WAY
MACHIAS, ME 04654
(207) 255-0162

## **S**CARBOROUGH

290 US ROUTE 1 SCARBOROUGH, ME 04074 (207) 883-7184

Wear your Military and/or MVH branded

gear to the hearing!

# SOUTH PARIS

477 HIGH STREET
SOUTH PARIS, ME 04281
(207) 743-6300

# CENTRAL OFFICE

460 CIVIC CENTER DRIVE AUGUSTA, ME 04330 (207) 622-0075

# MAINE VETERANS' HOMES caring for those who served

# Contact Your Legislators

• Email or send a written letter no later than April 11.

• Find your State Representative here: Representative Search

Find your State Senator here: <u>Senator Search</u>

# **Key Messages to Include in your Testimony or Letters:**

# Support for Maine Veterans' Homes (MVH) Mission

Maine Veterans' Homes are a vital resource for Maine's Veterans and their families, providing skilled nursing, rehabilitation, and long-term care. Our Veterans deserve high-quality care in dedicated facilities that honor their service and sacrifice.

## Adequate and Predictable Reimbursement

Current reimbursement models do not adequately account for the unique costs of providing care in MVH facilities (such as more medically complex residents requiring more expensive care). LD 182 ensures MaineCare reimbursement rates are set per resident, reflecting actual expenses and allowing MVH to plan for sustainable operations.

# Recruitment and Retention of Skilled Staff

Adequate reimbursement helps MVH remain competitive in hiring and retaining talented caregivers. Stable funding supports staff training and improved care quality.

# **Protecting Access to Care for Maine Veterans**

Without proper reimbursement, MVH facilities face financial challenges that could limit services or result in closures. LD 182 ensures Veterans across Maine, especially in rural areas, continue to have access to dedicated care.

# **Economic and Community Impact**

Maine Veterans' Homes are key employers and community partners, contributing to local economies. Sustained funding supports hundreds of Maine jobs and strengthens community health infrastructure.

# Accountability and Efficiency

MVH facilities have a proven track record of efficient resource use and high-quality outcomes, evidenced by the 2025 Customer Experience Award. Per-resident reimbursement fosters continued collaboration between DHHS and MVH for best practices and accountability.

## For More Information

Please reach out with any questions about LD 182 or how you can help. Thank you for your support!

Pam Kendrick: Director, Marketing & Communications 207.430.4477

PamKendrick@MaineVets.org

**AUGUSTA**35 HEROES WAY
AUGUSTA, ME 04330
(207) 622-2454

BANGOR 44 HOGAN ROAD BANGOR, ME 04401 (207) 942-2333 CARIBOU
163 VAN BUREN ROAD
CARIBOU, ME 04736
(207) 498-6074

**MACHIAS**32 VETERANS WAY
MACHIAS, ME 04654
(207) 255-0162

SCARBOROUGH 290 US ROUTE 1 SCARBOROUGH, ME 04074 (207) 883-7184 **SOUTH PARIS**477 HIGH STREET
SOUTH PARIS, ME 04281
(207) 743-6300

CENTRAL OFFICE
460 CIVIC CENTER DRIVE
AUGUSTA, ME 04330
(207) 622-0075