

2023 LEGISLATIVE REPORT CARD

The 2023 legislative session saw many successes for Thrive2027. Below is a brief report card on each of the bills impacting Thrive2027.

Legislation	Summary	Final Status
BILLS APPROVED BY THRIVE2027		
LD 2: An Act to Address Maine’s Housing Crisis	Establishes the Housing First Program within the Department of Health and Human Services to facilitate the delivery of stabilization and support services to residents of properties established or developed to provide permanent housing to persons who have been chronically homeless and to fund technical assistance, administered by the Maine State Housing Authority, for the development of housing consistent with the program.	● This bill was included in the budget that was passed and signed into law.
LD 1074: An Act to Authorize a General Fund Bond Issue to Fund New Affordable Housing for Low-income Households	Provides \$100,000,000 to be used to build new affordable housing for low-income households by constructing new structures and adaptive reusing existing structures.	● This bill was carried over to the next session.
LD 1726: An Act to Build Maine’s Economy by Supporting Child Care for Working Families	Establishes the Maine Child Care Scholarship Program within the Department of Health and Human Services to encompass the former child care subsidy program and new eligibility for child care providers.	● This bill was funded through the budget that was passed and signed into law.
LD 1799: An Act to Expand Maine’s High-quality Early Learning and Care for Children by Increasing Public Preschool Opportunities in Communities	Establishes a timeline, implementation plan, and incentives to expand publicly funded preschool programming to 30 hours per week or the length of the local school day at a school administrative unit with the goal of establishing an equitable, mixed delivery public preschool system that provides universal access for preschool-aged children and their families. The bill also establishes a working group of stakeholders to explore expansion to full-day preschool and pathways for child care programs to become publicly funded.	● This bill was funded through the budget that was passed and signed into law.
LD 258: The Biennial Budget	Provides \$237 million in state (\$94 million) and federal funds to support mental health and substance use disorder services, including \$166 million to increase payment rates to providers as a result of MaineCare’s nationally recognized new rate reform process. This initiative includes \$7 million to prioritize direct response to the opioid crisis and funding to support prevention, treatment and recovery services for substance use disorders and catalyzes improvements to behavioral health care for children.	● This proposal was included in the budget that was passed and signed into law.

● Maintained or passed into law

● Pending additional actions

● Not passed