



United Way
of Southern Maine

2022 LEGISLATIVE REPORT CARD

The 2022 legislative session saw many successes for United Way of Southern Maine (UWSM) and Thrive2027. Below is a brief report card on each of the bills and issues in which UWSM engaged.

Bill	Purpose	Final Status
GOAL 1: GIVE KIDS A STRONG START		
<p>LD 1652: An Act To Build a Child Care System by Recruiting and Retaining Maine's Early Childhood Educators Workforce</p>	<p>This bill requires the Commissioner of Health and Human Services, the Commissioner of Education, and the Commissioner of Labor to develop jointly and implement an early childhood educators workforce support program to recruit and retain early childhood educators working with children up to 5 years of age. <i>*Also supports Thrive2027 Goal 2.</i></p>	<p>● This bill was rolled into the budget, which was signed by the Governor.</p>
GOAL 2: EMPOWER NEIGHBORS TO THRIVE - NOT JUST SURVIVE		
<p>LD 175: An Act To Authorize a General Fund Bond Issues To Create and Enhance Regional Homeless Shelters</p>	<p>This bill sought to provide \$50 million to create and enhance regional homeless shelters.</p>	<p>● This bill did not pass.</p>
<p>LD 292: An Act To Increase the Minimum Grant Amount under the Maine State Grant Program</p>	<p>This bill sought to increase the minimum grant amount for undergraduate students to \$2,500 under the Maine State Grant Program, which is administered by FAME (Finance Authority of Maine).</p>	<p>● This bill did not pass.</p>
<p>LD 296: An Act To Provide a Tax Credit for Family Caregivers</p>	<p>This bill sought to require a tax credit for family caregivers and provide a refundable income tax credit of \$2,000 for certified family caregivers and permits eligible family caregivers.</p>	<p>● This bill did not pass.</p>
<p>LD 1094: An Act To Authorize a General Fund Bond Issue To Reduce Homeowner and Municipal Energy Bills through Increased Efficiency and Weatherization Projects</p>	<p>This bill sought to provide funding through the Efficiency Maine Trust to support increased weatherization efforts with specific support for investments in weatherization programs that benefit seniors and low-income residents.</p>	<p>● This bill did not pass.</p>

Bill	Purpose	Final Status
LD 1235: An Act To Authorize a General Fund Bond Issue To Connect Maine with a World-class Internet Infrastructure	This bill sought to provide \$100 million for grants and loans to provide a world-class affordable high-speed Internet infrastructure to those in Maine with poor or no current connectivity.	● This bill did not pass.
LD 1807: An Act To Expand Nursing Education Programs	This bill provides \$2.5 million in ongoing funds for the Maine Community College System to expand Nursing Education Programs, increasing the number of nursing graduates from 240 to almost 500 each year.	● This bill was rolled into the budget, which was signed by the Governor.
GOAL 3: HELP US ALL LIVE LONGER, BETTER LIVES		
LD 372: An Act To Provide Maine Children Access Affordable Health Care	This bill makes changes to the federal CHIP (Children's Health Insurance Program), which is a program that provides health coverage for children from birth to age 19. Specifically, this bill would increase eligibility and expand coverage. <i>*Also supports Thrive2027 Goal 1.</i>	● This bill was rolled into the budget, which was signed by the Governor.

● Maintained or passed into law

● Pending additional actions

● Not passed