

MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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SECOND REGULAR SESSION

ONE HUNDRED AND NINTH LEGISLATURE

Legislative Document

No. 1695

S. P. 656

Office of the Secretary of the Senate

The Committee on Health and Institutional Services suggested. Approved for introduction by the Legislative Council pursuant to Joint Rule 26.

MAY M. ROSS, Secretary of the Senate

Presented by Senator Pray of Penobscot

STATE OF MAINE

IN THE YEAR OF OUR LORD NINETEEN HUNDRED AND EIGHTY

AN ACT to Limit the Department of Human Services from Mandating X-ray Requirements in Regard to Chiropractic Treatment.

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

22 MRSA § 1703-A is enacted to read:

§ 1703-A. Limitation for Medicaid; x-ray examination for chiropractic treatment

The Department of Human Services may not require x-ray examination as a prerequisite for providing chiropractic treatment under the Medicaid program, nor may it require subsequent x-rays for continuation of that treatment under the Medicaid program. X-ray requirements shall be left to the discretion of the attending chiropractor.

STATEMENT OF FACT

Recent emphasis has been placed on the health hazzards of x-ray radiation. State Medicaid guidelines mandate that for a chiropractic patient an initial x-ray must be taken; then after 6 months another x-ray must be taken, and subsequently at 12-month intervals. Reimbursement for x-rays is not a covered service when taken by a doctor of chiropractic care. It also forces patients to be exposed to

radiation at times when a doctor's judgement deems that an unnecessary health risk. The intent of this bill is to remove the x-ray mandate and leave x-ray requirements to the professional judgement of the attending chiropractor.