

# MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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SAK  
ROS

L.D. 178

Date: 5/27/25

(Filing No. H- 272)

**HEALTH COVERAGE, INSURANCE AND FINANCIAL SERVICES**

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**STATE OF MAINE  
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES  
132ND LEGISLATURE  
FIRST SPECIAL SESSION**

COMMITTEE AMENDMENT "A" to H.P. 111, L.D. 178, "An Act Regarding Coverage for Step Therapy for Advanced Metastatic Cancer"

Amend the bill by striking out the title and substituting the following:

**'An Act Regarding Coverage for Step Therapy for Metastatic Cancer'**

Amend the bill by striking out everything after the enacting clause and inserting the following:

**'Sec. 1. 24-A MRSA §4320-N, sub-§1, ¶A-1 is enacted to read:**

A-1. "Associated conditions" means the symptoms or side effects associated with metastatic cancer or its treatment and that, in the judgment of the health care practitioner, further jeopardize the health of a patient if left untreated.

**Sec. 2. 24-A MRSA §4320-N, sub-§1, ¶C-1 is enacted to read:**

C-1. "Metastatic cancer" means cancer that has spread from the primary or original site of the cancer to nearby tissues, lymph nodes or other areas or parts of the body.

**Sec. 3. 24-A MRSA §4320-N, sub-§8 is enacted to read:**

**8. Step therapy for metastatic cancer and associated conditions prohibited.**

Notwithstanding subsection 6, paragraph B, with respect to coverage of a prescription drug on a carrier's formulary for the treatment of metastatic cancer and associated conditions, a carrier or utilization review organization may not require that the enrollee use a step therapy protocol before the carrier provides coverage of a prescription drug approved by the United States Food and Drug Administration.

**Sec. 4. Appropriations and allocations.** The following appropriations and allocations are made.

**ADMINISTRATIVE AND FINANCIAL SERVICES, DEPARTMENT OF  
Departments and Agencies - Statewide 0016**

## COMMITTEE AMENDMENT "A" to H.P. 111, L.D. 178

1 Initiative: Provides funding to allow enrollees to use step therapy protocols before the  
 2 carrier provides coverage of prescription drugs approved by the United States Food and  
 3 Drug Administration. The expanded requirements apply to health plans issued or renewed  
 4 on or after January 1, 2026.

5	<b>GENERAL FUND</b>	<b>2025-26</b>	<b>2026-27</b>
6	All Other	\$0	\$7,176
7			
8	<b>GENERAL FUND TOTAL</b>	<b>\$0</b>	<b>\$7,176</b>

9			
10	<b>HIGHWAY FUND</b>	<b>2025-26</b>	<b>2026-27</b>
11	All Other	\$0	\$2,496
12			
13	<b>HIGHWAY FUND TOTAL</b>	<b>\$0</b>	<b>\$2,496</b>

14

15 Amend the bill by relettering or renumbering any nonconsecutive Part letter or section  
 16 number to read consecutively.

17 **SUMMARY**

18 This amendment replaces the bill and changes the title. With respect to coverage of a  
 19 prescription drug on a carrier's formulary for the treatment of metastatic cancer and  
 20 associated conditions, the amendment prohibits a health insurance carrier or utilization  
 21 review organization from requiring an enrollee to use a step therapy protocol before the  
 22 carrier provides coverage of a prescription drug approved by the United States Food and  
 23 Drug Administration. The amendment also adds an appropriations and allocations section.

24 **FISCAL NOTE REQUIRED**

25 (See attached)

**132nd MAINE LEGISLATURE****LD 178****LR 578(02)****An Act Regarding Coverage for Step Therapy for Advanced Metastatic Cancer**

**Fiscal Note for Bill as Amended by Committee Amendment "A" (H-272)**  
**Committee: Health Coverage, Insurance and Financial Services**  
**Fiscal Note Required: Yes**

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**Fiscal Note**

	<b>FY 2025-26</b>	<b>FY 2026-27</b>	<b>Projections FY 2027-28</b>	<b>Projections FY 2028-29</b>
<b>Net Cost (Savings)</b>				
General Fund	\$0	\$7,176	\$7,176	\$7,176
Highway Fund	\$0	\$2,496	\$2,496	\$2,496
<b>Appropriations/Allocations</b>				
General Fund	\$0	\$7,176	\$7,176	\$7,176
Highway Fund	\$0	\$2,496	\$2,496	\$2,496

**Fiscal Detail and Notes**

This bill prohibits health insurance carriers and utilization review organizations from requiring enrollees to use step therapy protocols before the carrier provides coverage of prescription drugs approved by the United States Food and Drug Administration with respect to coverage of prescription drugs on the carrier's formulary for the treatment of metastatic cancer and associated conditions.

The requirements of the bill apply to health plans issued or renewed on or after January 1, 2026. The State Employee Health Plan's first impacted plan year will be fiscal year 2026-27 and is estimated to cost \$15,600 annually thereafter. The costs are split across the General Fund (\$7,176), Highway Fund (\$2,496), and all other funds (\$5,928).