

MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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2 Date: 6/6/25

(Filing No. H-536)

3 **HEALTH COVERAGE, INSURANCE AND FINANCIAL SERVICES**

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5 **STATE OF MAINE**
6 **HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES**
7 **132ND LEGISLATURE**
8 **FIRST SPECIAL SESSION**

9 COMMITTEE AMENDMENT "A" to H.P. 884, L.D. 1361, "An Act to Require
10 Insurance Coverage for Covered Dental Services Provided by Licensed Dental Hygienists
11 and to Authorize Licensed Dental Hygienists to Bill Commercial Dental Insurance"

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

13 **'An Act to Require Insurance Coverage for Covered Dental Services Provided by**
14 **Licensed Dental Hygienists'**

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

17 **'Sec. 1. 24 MRSA §2317-B, sub-§12-E,** as enacted by PL 2009, c. 307, §1 and
18 **affected by §6, is amended to read:**

19 **12-E. Title 24-A, sections 2765 and, 2847-Q and 4257.** Coverage for services
20 provided by independent practice dental hygienists or dental hygienists, Title 24-A,
21 sections 2765 and, 2847-Q and 4257;

22 **Sec. 2. 24-A MRSA §2765,** as amended by PL 2015, c. 429, §11, is further amended
23 by amending the section headnote to read:

24 **§2765. Coverage for services provided by independent practice dental hygienist or**
25 **dental hygienist**

26 **Sec. 3. 24-A MRSA §2765, sub-§1,** as amended by PL 2015, c. 429, §11, is further
27 amended to read:

28 **1. Services provided by independent practice dental hygienist or dental hygienist.**
29 An insurer that issues individual dental insurance or health insurance that includes coverage
30 for dental services shall provide coverage for dental services performed by an independent
31 practice dental hygienist or dental hygienist licensed under Title 32, chapter 143 when those
32 services are covered services under the contract and when they are within the lawful scope
33 of practice of the independent practice dental hygienist or dental hygienist.

Sec. 4. 24-A MRSA §2847-Q, as amended by PL 2015, c. 429, §13, is further amended by amending the section headnote to read:

§2847-Q. Coverage for services provided by independent practice dental hygienist or dental hygienist

Sec. 5. 24-A MRSA §2847-Q, sub-§1, as amended by PL 2015, c. 429, §13, is further amended to read:

1. Services provided by independent practice dental hygienist or dental hygienist.
An insurer that issues group dental insurance or health insurance that includes coverage for dental services shall provide coverage for dental services performed by an independent practice dental hygienist or dental hygienist licensed under Title 32, chapter 143 when those services are covered services under the contract and when they are within the lawful scope of practice of the independent practice dental hygienist or dental hygienist.

Sec. 6. 24-A MRSA §4257, as amended by PL 2015, c. 429, §15, is further amended by amending the section headnote to read:

**§4257. Coverage for services provided by independent practice dental hygienist or
dental hygienist**

Sec. 7. 24-A MRSA §4257, sub-§1, as amended by PL 2015, c. 429, §15, is further amended to read:

1. Services provided by independent practice dental hygienist or dental hygienist. All individual and group health maintenance organization contracts that include coverage for dental services shall provide coverage for dental services performed by an independent practice dental hygienist or dental hygienist licensed under Title 32, chapter 143 when those services are covered services under the contract and when they are within the lawful scope of practice of the independent practice dental hygienist or dental hygienist.'

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

SUMMARY

This amendment replaces the bill and changes the title. The amendment requires health insurance carriers to reimburse dental hygienists for covered services that are within their scope of practice if those same services would be reimbursed if provided by a dentist.

FISCAL NOTE REQUIRED

(See attached)



132nd MAINE LEGISLATURE

LD 1361

LR 1713(02)

An Act to Require Insurance Coverage for Covered Dental Services Provided by Licensed Dental Hygienists and to Authorize Licensed Dental Hygienists to Bill Commercial Dental Insurance

Fiscal Note for Bill as Amended by Committee Amendment "A" (H-536)
Committee: Health Coverage, Insurance and Financial Services

Fiscal Note Required: Yes

Fiscal Note

Potential current biennium cost increase - All Funds

Potential current biennium savings - All Funds

Fiscal Detail and Notes

This bill requires health insurance carriers to reimburse licensed dental hygienists for covered services that are within their scope of practice if those same services would be reimbursed if provided by a dentist. This requirement would increase the volume of claims pertaining to dental visits with licensed dental hygienists, however, it cannot be determined if these new claims would be filed by enrollees who historically had not utilized licensed dentists, therefore increasing costs, or if these new claims would be filed by enrollees who historically had utilized licensed dentists, therefore decreasing costs if the equivalent licensed dental hygienist were less expensive. A more precise fiscal estimate cannot be determined at this time.