

MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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**Review and Evaluation of the State
Employee Health Commission under the
Government Evaluation Act**

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STATE OF MAINE

ONE HUNDRED AND TWENTIETH-FOURTH LEGISLATURE

COMMITTEE ON INSURANCE AND FINANCIAL SERVICES

March 11, 2010

The Honorable Elizabeth H. Mitchell
President of the Senate
The Honorable Hannah M. Pingree
Speaker of the House of Representatives
119th Legislature
State House
Augusta, Maine 04333-0003

Dear Madam President and Madam Speaker:

Pursuant to Title 3 Maine Revised Statutes, chapter 35, we are pleased to submit the findings of the Joint Standing Committee on Insurance and Financial Services from the review and evaluation of the State Employee Health Commission under the Government Evaluation Act. In its review, the committee found that the Commission is operating very effectively within its statutory authority. The committee found that Commission has achieved the highest level of success in meeting its statutory role as trustee of the State employee health and dental plan.

As created by statute, the Commission has a unique structure as all votes of the commission are limited to one collective vote cast by all labor members and one collective vote cast by all management members. The committee found that this requirement has necessitated consensus-building among the members and contributed to the Commission's effective oversight. The Commission has become a leader in developing innovative models to contain costs, improve quality and reform payment for health care services. As a result, the health and dental plans are effectively managed within budgeted resources but continue to provide access to high-quality and affordable health care to State employees, retirees and their dependents. We commend the twenty-four Commission members and Frank Johnson, the Executive Director of the Office of Employee Health and Benefits who serves as an ex officio member of the Commission, for their achievements.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Bowman".

Senator Peter B. Bowman

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Sharon Anglin Treat".

Representative Sharon Anglin Treat (C.M.R.)