

MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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training team to assist placement workers and the staff of approved facilities.

811 AN ACT TO REQUIRE PHYSICIANS TO REPORT TO THE BOARD OF REGISTRATION IN MEDICINE WHETHER OR NOT THEY ACCEPT MEDICARE ASSIGNMENTS Sen. Bustin OTP-ND LD 1742

SUMMARY: The bill required the Board of Registration in Medicine, as part of the biennial registration process, to ask physicians whether and under what circumstances they accepted Medicare assignment. The Board would then forward the information to the Department of Human Services, who would make the list available to the public.

The Board had concerns about making the compilation, and DHS was concerned about the cost. Advocates for Medicare patients preferred to have the information available, as a contribution to their own awareness of health care costs. Many people agreed the scope should be broadened beyond allopathic physicians.

814 AN ACT TO CLARIFY THE RIGHTS OF HEALTH CARE PROVIDERS Sen. Perkins LV/WD HSE-ACCP LV/WD SEN-ACCP LV/WD

SUMMARY: The bill would have established a right for health care providers to require persons practising or providing professional services to carry medical malpractice insurance, without thereby increasing their own liability.

There was testimony that the bill was not needed, and that it could infringe on bargaining rights.

832 AN ACT TO RECODIFY THE STATUTES RELATING TO CORRECTIONS AND MENTAL HEALTH AND MENTAL RETARDATION (REPORTED PURSUANT TO PUBLIC LAWS CHAPT. 439 OF THE 110TH LEGISLATURE) Rep. Manning OTP-A HSE-ENACT. SEN-ENACT. GOV-SIGNED PL 83, c. 459

SUMMARY: The bill divided the provisions of Title 34 into two new titles, 34-A for Corrections and 34-B for Mental Health and Mental Retardation.

It reorganized the previous provisions, clarified language, and removed obsolete references but did not make substantive policy changes.

The Committee Amendment (H-346) corrected printing errors in the bill, restored language which had been omitted by mistake, and incorporated all bills passed to that point of the session which affected Title 34 into the new titles.