

STATE OF MAINE SENATE 107TH LEGISLATURE

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COMMITTEE AMENDMENT " A" to S.P. 136, L. D. 440, Bill, "AN ACT to Include Procedures Performed by Dentists and Dental Hygienists under Health Insurance Policies and Health Care Contracts which Pay Benefits for those Procedures if Performed by a Physician."

Amend said Bill by striking out everything after the enacting clause and inserting in place thereof the following:

'<u>Sec. 1. 24 MRSA §2303-A</u> is enacted to read: §2303-A. Dentist included in definition of physician

Whenever the terms "physician" or "doctor" are used in any contract for the provision of health care services or benefits under a medical care service plan operated by a nonprofit hospital or medical service organization operating pursuant to this chapter, these terms shall include within their meaning those persons licensed under and in accordance with the laws relating to the practice of dentistry, Title 32, chapter 16, in respect to any care, services, procedures or benefits covered by such contract which those persons are licensed to perform. Those persons shall be compensated for the provision of such services under the same terms and conditions as allopathic and osteopathic physicians are compensated including the differentiation in compensation between participating and nonparticipating providers of such services, any provisions in such contract to the contrary notwithstanding.

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Sec. 2. 24-A MRSA §2437 is enacted to read: §2437. Procedures covered by health insurance policies

whether performed by physician or dentist

Whenever the terms "physician" or "doctor" are used in any policy of health or accident insurance issued in this State, these terms shall include within their meaning those persons licensed under and in accordance with the laws relating to the practice of dentistry, Title 32, chapter 16, in respect to any care, services, procedures or benefits covered by that policy of insurance which those persons are licensed to perform, any provisions in any such policy of insurance to the contrary notwithstanding.

Sec. 3. Applicability. This Act shall be applicable to all policies of insurance and health care contracts issued or entered into after the effective date of this Act.'

Statement of Fact

The purpose of this amendment is to restate the bill in corrected language and to deal with health insurance and nonprofit plans in 2 separate sections since they are covered by different titles of the statutes.

Reported by the Committee on Business Legislation. Reproduced and distributed pursuant to Senate Rule 11-A. May 12, 1975. (Filing No. S-143).