

MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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L.D. 1974

STATE OF MAINE
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES (Filing No. H-1066)
108TH LEGISLATURE
SECOND REGULAR SESSION

COMMITTEE AMENDMENT "A" to H.P. 1913, L.D. 1974, Bill, "AN ACT to Allow Nursing Homes to Provide Physical and Occupational Therapy to Residents in Need of that Care."

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

'22 MRSA §3173-A is enacted to read:

§3173-A. Reimbursement for therapy; intermediate care facilities and skilled nursing facilities

When therapy is non-reimbursable under Title XVIII of the Social Security Act (Medicare), the Department of Human Services shall reimburse an intermediate care facility or skilled nursing facility directly for the costs of physical and occupational therapy to individual residents or for professional consultants, or → both, →
→ to the staff of the facility
in accordance with professional standards of practice.

Reimbursement shall be included either as an allowable cost of operation in determining the per diem rate, or as a separate service for which the facility bills the Medical Assistance Program, whichever method is the less costly to that program while providing adequate and timely reimbursement to the therapists

In developing regulations to administer this section, the Department of Human Services shall consult with the Maine Chapter of American Physical Therapists Association, the Maine Occupational Therapists Association and other groups as appropriate. The regulations shall be published within sixty days of the effective date of this section.

Fiscal Note

The provisions for reimbursement in the amended bill mean that some savings will be realized from Part B of the Medicare program. These savings, estimated to be \$98,000, shall be used by the Department of Human Services to pay for the additional services described in the bill.

Statement of Fact

This amendment allows the Department of Human Services to provide direct reimbursement to intermediate care facilities or to skilled nursing facilities for physical and occupational therapy services or for professional consultation, or for both. The amended bill will not conflict with reimbursement for services under Part B of the Medicare program, but will allow maximum flexibility in the provision of additional services to the residents of these facilities.

Reported by the Committee on Health and Institutional Services.

Reproduced and distributed under the direction of the Clerk of the House.

2/23/78

(Filing No. H-1066)