

MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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STATE OF MAINE
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES (Filing No. H-447)
109TH LEGISLATURE
FIRST REGULAR SESSION

COMMITTEE AMENDMENT "A" to H.P. 499, L.D. 635, Bill, "AN ACT Concerning Persons Exposed to Diethylstilbestrol."

Amend the bill in section 1 by striking out all of that part designated "§1652" through "§1656" and inserting in their place the following:

'§1652. Providers of screening programs

The Commissioner of Human Services shall actively seek providers of health care to participate in regional programs which provide public information and screening for diethylstilbestrol exposed persons. In determining regional screening program providers, the commissioner shall consider the provider's compliance with state and federally mandated standards, the location in relation to the population to be served and the capacity of the provider to properly conduct these programs.

§1653. Registry

The Bureau of Health, within the Department of Human Services, shall establish and maintain a registry limited to women who took diethylstilbestrol during pregnancy, and their offspring who were exposed to diethylstilbestrol prenatally, solely for the purpose of follow-up care and treatment of long-term problems associated with diethylstilbestrol exposure. Enrollment in the registry shall be upon a voluntary basis.

§1654. Assistance

The commissioner may request and shall receive from any department, division, board, bureau, commission or agency of the State, or of any political subdivision thereof, such assistance and data as will enable him to properly carry out his activities hereunder and effectuate the purposes set forth in this chapter. The commissioner may also enter into any contract for services / ^{which} he deems necessary with a private agency or concern upon such terms and conditions as he deems appropriate.

§1655. Report

The department shall make an annual report to the Joint Standing Committee on Health and Institutional Services of the Legislature of its findings and recommendations concerning the effectiveness, impact and benefits derived from the special programs as provided for in this chapter. This report shall be delivered on or before the first day of February and shall contain evaluations of these special programs and recommendations in final draft form of any legislation deemed necessary and proper.'

Further amend the bill by striking out all of section 2 and inserting in its place the following:

'Sec. 2. 24 MRSA §2303, sub-§4 is enacted to read:

4. No individual or group in nonprofit hospital and medical service organization contracts or renewals thereof, shall be denied or not renewed, solely because the mother of the subscriber or member has taken or is discovered to have taken diethylstilbestrol, commonly referred to as DES.'

Further amend the bill by inserting at the end the following:

'Sec. 3. 24-A MRSA §2450 is enacted to read:

§2450. Eligibility for health insurance in certain cases

No policy of accident or health insurance, or group or blanket accident or health insurance or renewals thereof, shall be denied or not renewed by the insurer, solely because the mother of the insured has taken or is discovered to have taken diethylstilbestrol, commonly referred to as DES.'

Statement of Fact

The amendment deletes the requirement in ^{Title 22,} section 1652 that the commissioner establish contracts with providers of health care for regional screening programs, and limits his responsibility to actively seeking people to provide the programs. It also adds sections to the statutes dealing with insurance, and makes clear that the registry is to be used solely for the stated purpose. The report is to be made to the Joint Standing Committee on Health and Institutional Services.

Reported by the Committee on Health and Institutional Services
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Clerk of the House.

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