MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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FIRST REGULAR SESSION

ONE HUNDRED AND TENTH LEGISLATURE

Legislative Document

No. 959

S. P. 329 In Senate, February 20, 1981 Referred to the Committee on Business Legislation. Sent down forthwith for concurrence and ordered printed.

MAY M. ROSS, Secretary of the Senate

Presented by Senator Pray of Penobscot.

Cosponsors: Senator Hichens of York, Representative Gwadosky of Fairfield and Representative Higgins of Scarborough.

STATE OF MAINE

IN THE YEAR OF OUR LORD NINETEEN HUNDRED AND EIGHTY-ONE

AN ACT to Include Services Performed by Chiropractors under all Health Insurance Policies and Health Care Contracts Which Pay Benefits for Those Procedures if Performed by a Physician.

Be it enacted by the People of the State of Maine, as follows:

Sec. 1. 24 MRSA § 2303-B, as enacted by PL 1979, c. 335, § 1, is amended to read:

§ 2303-B. Optional coverage for chiropractic services

Every nonprofit hospital or medical service organization which issues group or individual health care contracts providing coverage for the services of a "physican" or "doctor" to residents of this State shall make available to groups with 50 or more members all subscribers coverage for services performed by a chiropractor to the extent the services are within the lawful scope of practice of a chiropractor licensed to practice in this State, provided the chiropractor performing the services has contracted with the organization under terms and conditions which the organization deems satisfactory to its membership.

- Sec. 2. 24-A MRSA § 2747 is enacted to read:
- § 2747. Optional coverage for chiropractic services

Every insurer which issues or issues for delivery in this State individual health

policies which provide coverage on an expense-incurred basis for the services of a "physician" or "doctor" shall make available such coverage for the comparable services of a chiropractor to the extent these services are within the lawful scope of practice of a chiropractor licensed to practice in this State.

Sec. 3. 24-A MRSA § 2840, as reallocated by PL 1979, c. 663, § 145, is amended to read:

§ 2840. Optional coverage for chiropractic services

Every insurer which issues or issues for delivery in this State group health policies, which provide coverage on an expense-incurred basis for the services of a "physician" or "doctor," shall make available to all groups with 50 or more members such coverage for the comparable services of a chiropractor to the extent these services are within the lawful scope of practice of a chiropractor licensed to practice in this State.

STATEMENT OF FACT

The purpose of this bill is to assure the people of the State a free choice in regard to health care covered by insurance by providing that chiropractic shall be available for all groups or individuals who wish to accept it as an option in their coverage.