

MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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1 FIRST REGULAR SESSION
2

3 ONE HUNDRED AND ELEVENTH LEGISLATURE
4

5 Legislative Document

No. 811

6
7 S.P. 266

In Senate, February 17, 1983

8 On Motion of Senator Carpenter of Aroostook referred to the Committee
9 on Health and Institutional Services. Sent down for concurrence and ordered
10 printed.

JOY J. O'BRIEN, Secretary of the Senate

Presented by Senator Bustin of Kennebec.

Cosponsors: Senator Clark of Cumberland and Representative Ketover of
11 Portland.

12 STATE OF MAINE
13

14 IN THE YEAR OF OUR LORD
15 NINETEEN HUNDRED AND EIGHTY-THREE
16

17 AN ACT to Require Physicians to Report
18 to the Board of Registration in Medicine
19 Whether or not they Accept Medicare
20 Assignments.
21

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

24 32 MRSA §3280, 2nd ¶, as amended by PL 1977, c.
25 388, §7, is further amended to read:

26 At least 60 days before July 1st of every even-
27 numbered year thereafter, the board shall mail to
28 each licensee at his last known office address a
29 notice of requirement of reregistration with appro-
30 priate forms therefor. The board shall include on the
31 forms for registration or reregistration a question
32 as to whether or not and under what circumstances the
33 physician will accept Medicare assignment. The
34 resulting information shall be compiled into a list

1 and provided by the board to the Department of Human
2 Services, which shall make the information available
3 to the public upon request. Whenever a licensee
4 fails to reregister within the time required, it
5 shall be the duty of the board to notify such licen-
6 see at his last known office address that his rereg-
7 istration is past due. Thirty days after such notice
8 has been sent, if reregistration has still not been
9 made, the board shall notify the licensee by certi-
10 fied mail, return receipt requested, with instruc-
11 tions to deliver to addressee only, that his license
12 has been suspended for 30 days, at the end of which
13 period, if reregistration has still not been made,
14 the license will lapse automatically and the board
15 shall not restore same except upon the following con-
16 ditions:

17 STATEMENT OF FACT

18 Patients who are eligible for Medicare pay an
19 annual deductible fee, and 20% of the usual, reason-
20 able and customary charges for covered services pro-
21 vided by a physician. The remaining 80% is paid by
22 Medicare if the physician agrees to Medicare assign-
23 ment. If the physician does not accept Medicare
24 assignment, the patient must pay the annual deduct-
25 ible, the 20% and the amount charged by the physician
26 which is above the usual, reasonable and customary
27 charges.

28 At present, Medicare-eligible patients have no
29 convenient way to determine which physicians accept
30 Medicare assignment. The bill would provide a cen-
31 tral list, which would be available at all Department
32 of Human Services offices.

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