

MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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114th MAINE LEGISLATURE

FIRST REGULAR SESSION - 1989

Legislative Document

No. 1040

S.P. 396

In Senate, April 5, 1989

Reference to the Committee on Banking and Insurance suggested and ordered printed.

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Joy J. O'Brien".

JOY J. O'BRIEN
Secretary of the Senate

Presented by Senator BRANNIGAN of Cumberland.

STATE OF MAINE

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

An Act to Simplify Reporting Requirements for Workers' Compensation Insurers and Self-insurers.



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

3 **Sec. 1. 24-A MRSA §2371, sub-§2, ¶D,** as enacted by PL 1987, c.
559, Pt. A, §4, is amended to read:

5 D. Cost of payment information on each claim, identified as
7 open or closed, including:

9 (1) Payments Aggregate payments to date to any
11 physieian physicians, --hospital, --medieal-rehabilitation
13 provider--or hospitals and all other medical provider,
together-with-a-description-of-the-services,--name-of
the-provider-and-ameunt-of-payment providers;

15 (2) Payments made to date for weekly compensation,
17 impairment benefits, death benefit, funeral expense,
19 employee legal expense, employer legal expense, lump
21 sum, witness fees, penalties, vocational rehabilitation
services with a description of services and name of
rehabilitation provider and any other type of payments
under Title 39;

23 (3) With respect to open claims, an estimate of total
25 outstanding liability,--including-anticieped-payments,--
and separately stated, outstanding liability for
27 physieian,--hospital,--other medical care, weekly
compensation,----impairment----benefits, indemnity,
29 vocational rehabilitation,--employee--legal--expense,--
employer-legal-expense,--witness-fees and any other type
of payment; and

31 (4) Identification, both on payments and outstanding
33 liabilities, of benefit offsets for Social Security,
35 unemployment insurance, employer provided pension and
any other source.

37 **Sec. 2. 24-A MRSA §2371, sub-§6,** as enacted by PL 1987, c.
559, Pt. A, §4, is repealed and the following enacted in its
39 place:

41 6. Reports. The superintendent shall prescribe the
43 frequency of and schedule for reports by the statistical advisory
organization. Reports shall be required on at least an annual
45 basis.

47 STATEMENT OF FACT

49 The purpose of this bill is to simplify the data reporting
requirements for Workers' Compensation insurers and self-insurers.

51

1 The current law requires that, for each workers'
3 compensation claim, detailed information must be collected about
5 payments made to date, outstanding liability and benefit offsets
7 resulting from social security, unemployment insurance,
9 employer-provided pension and any other source. The details
11 required in particular for medical payments to date and for
13 outstanding liability are time-consuming and expensive to collect
15 and report.

17 Instead of requiring detailed information about payments to
19 individual medical care providers, as is the case under the
21 current law, this bill requires data about aggregate payments to
23 3 categories of providers: physicians, hospitals and all other
25 medical providers.

27 With respect to outstanding liability, the bill provides
29 that this must be reported in the broad areas of medical care,
31 indemnity and vocational rehabilitation, while it eliminates more
33 detailed reporting requirements.

35 Finally, the bill gives the Superintendent of Insurance the
37 flexibility to prescribe the frequency of and schedule for
39 reports that the statistical advisory organization must submit
41 and ensures that reports are filed on at least an annual basis.