

L.D. 783

(Filing No. S- 310)

STATE OF MAINE SENATE 115TH LEGISLATURE FIRST REGULAR SESSION

SENATE AMENDMENT " A " to COMMITTEE AMENDMENT "B" to H.P. 546, L.D. 783, Bill, "An Act to Amend the Law Concerning the Maine High-Risk Insurance Organization"

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Amend the amendment in section 2 in the first line (page 1, line 44 in amendment) by striking out the following: "sub-§§5 and 7" and inserting in its place the following: 'sub-§5' and in the 20 2nd line (page 1, line 45 in amendment) by striking out the following: "are" and inserting in its place the following: 'is'

Further amend the amendment in section 2 by striking out all of subsection 7 (page 1, lines 50 and 51 and page 2, lines 1 to 16 in amendment).

Further amend the amendment in section 4 in the first line 28 (page 3, line 44 in amendment) by striking out the following: "sub-§§1 to 3" and inserting in its place the following: 'sub-§§1 30 to 4'

Further amend the amendment in section 4 by inserting at the end the following:

'4. Premium subsidy. The board shall make available a plan
to subsidize premiums for those individuals who have been denied health insurance because of a health condition and who meet
income eligibility requirements set by the board. The subsidy plan to be paid from the General Fund shall may not exceed
\$50,000 in costs during the first 2 years of operation. Funds appropriated for this purpose may not lapse, but must be carried
forward to fulfill the purposes of this subsection.

44 No subsidy may be given to a person if the premium amount, after deducting the subsidy, is less than the premium of any comparable
46 individual health insurance policy currently available to that person in the State.

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The board shall relate the experience of the subsidy plan to the Legislature in the annual report and shall make recommendations regarding the subsidy plan.'

Further amend the amendment by inserting after section 5 the 6 following:

'FISCAL NOTE

10 Adding a carrying provision to funds appropriated to the Maine High-Risk Insurance Organization for health insurance premium subsidies could reduce the amount of funds lapsing to the 12 General Fund at the end of each fiscal year and, consequently, could reduce the amount of General Fund resources available in 14 the future.'

STATEMENT OF FACT

This amendment deletes the provision in Committee Amendment 20 "B" that changed the due date for the Maine High-Risk Insurance Organization's annual report from February 1st to April 1st. The 22 amendment also adds a nonlapsing clause for the appropriation 24 . provided to subsidize premiums under the program for low-income insureds and adds a fiscal note. 26

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30 SPONSORED BY:

(Senator PEARSON)

COUNTY: Penobscot

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