

MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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116th MAINE LEGISLATURE

FIRST REGULAR SESSION-1993

Legislative Document

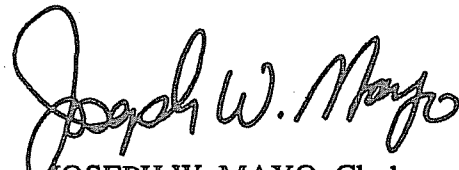
No. 259

H.P. 197

House of Representatives, February 2, 1993

An Act to Reduce Hospital Costs.

Reference to the Committee on Human Resources suggested and ordered printed.


JOSEPH W. MAYO, Clerk

Presented by Representative MITCHELL of Freeport.

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

4 Sec. 1. 22 MRSA §1712-A is enacted to read:

6 §1712-A. Radiology reviews disallowed

8 1. Hospital may not charge for reviews. A hospital, as
10 defined in section 382, subsection 7 or a direct provider of
12 health care, as defined in section 382, subsection 5, may not
charge a patient or any payor for a review of X rays that is
conducted after treatment has commenced for the condition that
required the X rays.

14 2. Costs not allowed. When establishing a hospital's
16 financial requirements for payment years beginning on or after
18 October 1, 1993, the Maine Health Care Finance Commission shall
disallow costs associated with reviews of X rays that are
conducted after treatment has commenced for the conditions that
required the X rays.

22 STATEMENT OF FACT

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26 Currently, some hospitals reduce their malpractice exposure
28 by conducting X-ray reviews after patients have been treated.
30 Patients are charged for this review, which is not directly
32 related to their care. The bill prohibits hospitals and other
health care providers from charging patients or any other payor
for these after-the-fact reviews, and requires the Maine Health
Care Finance Commission to disallow costs associated with the
reviews when establishing a hospital's financial requirements.