

MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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117th MAINE LEGISLATURE

FIRST REGULAR SESSION-1995

Legislative Document

No. 391

H.P. 287

House of Representatives, February 6, 1995

**An Act to Increase Access to Chiropractor Care under Health
Maintenance Organization Managed Care Plans.**

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

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Joseph W. Mayo".

JOSEPH W. MAYO, Clerk

Presented by Speaker GWADOSKY of Fairfield.

Cosponsored by Representatives: ADAMS of Portland, BERRY of Livermore, BOUFFARD of Lewiston, CHASE of China, CHIZMAR of Lisbon, CLARK of Millinocket, CLOUTIER of South Portland, DAGGETT of Augusta, DEXTER of Kingfield, DiPIETRO of South Portland, DORE of Auburn, DRISCOLL of Calais, FARNUM of South Berwick, GREEN of Monmouth, GREENLAW of Standish, HICHBORN of LaGrange, JACQUES of Waterville, JOHNSON of South Portland, JOSEPH of Waterville, KERR of Old Orchard Beach, KONTOS of Windham, LaFOUNTAIN of Biddeford, LEMAIRE of Lewiston, LEMKE of Westbrook, LOOK of Jonesboro, MARTIN of Eagle Lake, MITCHELL of Vassalboro, MORRISON of Bangor, MURPHY of Berwick, NADEAU of Saco, O'GARA of Westbrook, PLOWMAN of Hampden, POULIN of Oakland, POULIOT of Lewiston, RICKER of Lewiston, ROSEBUSH of East Millinocket, ROTONDI of Madison, SHIAH of Bowdoinham, SIMONEAU of Thomaston, STROUT of Corinth, TOWNSEND of Portland, TRUMAN of Biddeford, TUTTLE of Sanford, WHITCOMB of Waldo, WINGLASS of Auburn, WINN of Glenburn, YACKOBITZ of Hermon, Senators: BENOIT of Franklin, BERUBE of Androscoggin, BUSTIN of Kennebec, CAREY of Kennebec, CARPENTER of York, CASSIDY of Washington, ESTY of Cumberland, HALL of Piscataquis, LAWRENCE of York, LORD of York, McCORMICK of Kennebec, MICHAUD of Penobscot, O'DEA of Penobscot, PARADIS of Aroostook, PINGREE of Knox, RAND of Cumberland, RUHLIN of Penobscot, STEVENS of Androscoggin.

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

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4 **Sec. 1. 24-A MRS §4236, sub-§2**, as enacted by PL 1993, c. 669, §6, is amended to read:

6 **2. Benefits.** The health maintenance organization shall
8 provide benefits covering care by chiropractic providers at least
10 equal to and consistent with the benefits paid to other health
12 care providers treating similar neuro-musculoskeletal conditions,
14 including but not limited to the following benefits.

16 A. An enrollee may utilize the services of a chiropractic
18 provider for 4 weeks of treatment without the prior approval
20 of a primary care provider or the health maintenance
22 organization.

24 B. Within 3 days of the first consultation, the
26 chiropractic provider shall send to the primary care
28 provider a report containing the enrollee's complaint,
30 related history, examination, initial diagnosis and
32 treatment plan.

34 C. If the enrollee and the chiropractic provider determine
36 that the condition of the enrollee has not improved after 4
38 weeks of treatment, the chiropractic provider shall
40 discontinue treatment and refer the enrollee to the primary
42 care provider.

44 D. If the chiropractic provider recommends treatment beyond
46 4 weeks, the chiropractic provider shall send to the primary
48 care provider a 4-week report containing information on the
50 enrollee's progress and treatment plan.

52 E. After receiving the 4-week report from the chiropractic
54 provider, the primary care provider may request a review by
56 another chiropractic provider who is licensed and practices
58 within the State and who is chosen by the primary care
60 provider. A recommendation of up to 4 more weeks of
62 chiropractic by the reviewing chiropractic provider is
64 binding.

66 F. After 8 weeks of chiropractic treatment, continuing
68 chiropractic treatment requires the agreement of the primary
70 care provider.

STATEMENT OF FACT

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4 This bill allows enrollees in health maintenance
6 organizations to refer themselves to chiropractic providers for 4
weeks of treatment. It allows more treatment under certain
conditions. Chiropractic treatment beyond 8 weeks requires the
agreement of the primary care provider.