

# MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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M  
R. & S

L.D. 2190

DATE: *March 6, 1998*

(Filing No. S-489 )

**BANKING AND INSURANCE**

Reported by:

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**STATE OF MAINE  
SENATE  
118TH LEGISLATURE  
SECOND REGULAR SESSION**

COMMITTEE AMENDMENT "A" to S.P. 811, L.D. 2190, Bill, "An Act to Implement the Recommendations of the Blue Ribbon Commission to Study the Effects of Government Regulation and Health Insurance Costs on Small Businesses in Maine"

Amend the bill by striking out all of sections 4 and 5 and inserting in their place the following:

'Sec. 4. 24-A MRSA §2752, sub-§2, as enacted by PL 1991, c. 701, §8, is amended to read:

**2. Procedures before legislative committees.** Whenever a legislative measure containing a mandated health benefit is proposed, the joint standing committee of the Legislature having jurisdiction over the proposal shall hold a public hearing and determine the level of support for the proposal among the members of the committee. If there is ~~substantial~~ support for the proposed mandate among a majority of the members of the committee, the committee may refer the proposal to the Bureau of Insurance for review and evaluation pursuant to subsection 3. Once a review and evaluation has been completed, the committee shall review the findings of the bureau. A proposed mandate may not be enacted into law unless review and evaluation pursuant to subsection 3 has been completed.'

Further amend the bill by relettering or renumbering any nonconsecutive Part letter or section number to read consecutively.

Further amend the bill by inserting at the end before the summary the following:

**COMMITTEE AMENDMENT**

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**FISCAL NOTE**

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The Bureau of Insurance within the Department of Professional and Financial Regulation will incur some minor additional costs to review certain contract filings. These costs can be absorbed within the bureau's existing budgeted resources.'

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**SUMMARY**

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This amendment removes that section of the bill that prohibited the introduction of a mandated health benefit proposal in a second regular session or a special session of the Legislature. The amendment also clarifies that a majority of committee members must support a proposed mandate before referring the mandate for review and evaluation by the Bureau of Insurance.

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The amendment also adds a fiscal note to the bill.