

MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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119th MAINE LEGISLATURE

FIRST REGULAR SESSION-1999

Legislative Document

No. 980

S.P. 326

In Senate, February 4, 1999

An Act to Increase Access to Nontraditional Medical Alternatives.

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

A handwritten signature in cursive script, reading 'Joy J. O'Brien'.

JOY J. O'BRIEN
Secretary of the Senate

Presented by Senator PINGREE of Knox.
Cosponsored by Representative SULLIVAN of Biddeford and
Senators: DOUGLASS of Androscoggin, GOLDTHWAIT of Hancock, RAND of
Cumberland, Representatives: DUDLEY of Portland, PERRY of Bangor, TOWNSEND of
Portland.

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

4 **Sec. 1. 24-A MRSA §4310** is enacted to read:

6 **§4310. Coverage of nontraditional medical alternatives**

8 A carrier offering a managed care plan in this State shall
10 provide coverage for nontraditional medical alternative services,
12 including, but not limited to, naturopathy, homeopathy,
14 acupuncture, Oriental medicine, nutrition services, massage
therapy and medical hypnosis, when the enrollee is referred for
those services by a physician. The coverage required by this
section must be included in all individual and group policies and
contracts.

16 **Sec. 2. Application.** The requirements of this Act apply to
18 all policies, contracts and certificates executed, delivered,
20 issued for delivery, continued or renewed in this State on or
22 after January 1, 2000. For purposes of this Act, all contracts
are deemed to be renewed no later than the next yearly
anniversary of the contract date.

24 **SUMMARY**

26 This bill requires all managed care plans to provide
28 coverage for nontraditional medical alternatives when the
enrollee is referred for those services by a physician. The bill
30 applies to all individual and group managed care plan contracts
issued or renewed on or after January 1, 2000.