

# MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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# 119th MAINE LEGISLATURE

## FIRST REGULAR SESSION-1999

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Legislative Document

No. 1541

H.P. 1094

House of Representatives, February 25, 1999

**An Act to Extend Portability of Coverage to Persons Covered under  
College-sponsored Health Plans.**

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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 Representative NORBERT of Portland.  
Cosponsored by Senator PINGREE of Knox and  
Representatives: COWGER of Hallowell, DUDLEY of Portland, DUNLAP of Old Town,  
GREEN of Monmouth, SAXL of Bangor, STEVENS of Orono, WATSON of Farmingdale,  
WILLIAMS of Orono.

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

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**Sec. 1. 24-A MRSA §2848, sub-§1-B, ¶A,** as amended by PL 1997, c. 777, Pt. B, §4, is further amended to read:

A. Health benefits or coverage provided under any of the following:

(1) An employee welfare benefit plan as defined in Section 3(1) of the federal Employee Retirement Income Security Act of 1974, 29 United States Code, Section 1001, or a plan that would be an employee welfare benefit plan but for the "governmental plan" or "nonelecting church plan" exceptions, if the plan provides medical care as defined in subsection 2-A, and includes items and services paid for as medical care directly or through insurance, reimbursement or otherwise;

(2) Benefits consisting of medical care provided directly, through insurance or reimbursement and including items and services paid for as medical care under a policy, contract or certificate offered by a carrier;

(3) Part A or Part B of Title XVIII of the Social Security Act, Medicare;

(4) Title XIX of the Social Security Act, Medicaid, other than coverage consisting solely of benefits under Section 1928 of the Social Security Act or a state children's health insurance program under Title XXI of the Social Security Act;

(5) The Civilian Health and Medical Program for the Uniformed Services, CHAMPUS, 10 United States Code, Chapter 55;

(6) A medical care program of the federal Indian Health Care Improvement Act, 25 United States Code, Section 1601 or of a tribal organization;

(7) A state health benefits risk pool;

(8) A health plan offered under the federal Employees Health Benefits Amendments Act, 5 United States Code, Chapter 89;

(9) A public health plan as defined in federal regulations authorized by the federal Public Health

2 Service Act, Section 2701(c)(1)(I), as amended by  
Public Law 104-191; or

4 (10) A health benefit plan under Section 5(e) of the  
Peace Corps Act, 22 United States Code, Section  
6 2504(e); or

8 (11) A college-sponsored health plan. As used in this  
10 subparagraph, a "college-sponsored health plan" means  
12 benefits offered by or through an institution of higher  
14 education as defined in Section 481 (a) of the Higher  
16 Education Act, 20 United States Code, Section 1088 (a)  
in relation to students enrolled in the institution,  
but does not include benefits offered to those students  
as participants or beneficiaries in a group health plan.

18 **SUMMARY**

20 This bill amends the continuity of health insurance coverage  
laws to extend continuity of coverage to students covered under  
22 college-sponsored health plans.