

MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

The following document is provided by the
LAW AND LEGISLATIVE DIGITAL LIBRARY
at the Maine State Law and Legislative Reference Library
<http://legislature.maine.gov/lawlib>



Reproduced from scanned originals with text recognition applied
(searchable text may contain some errors and/or omissions)



120th MAINE LEGISLATURE

FIRST REGULAR SESSION-2001

Legislative Document

No. 801

H.P. 616

House of Representatives, February 13, 2001

**An Act to Authorize the State and Participating Municipalities to Pool
Health Care in a Joint Venture.**

Reference to the Committee on State and Local Government suggested and ordered printed.

Millicent M. MacFarland

MILLICENT M. MacFARLAND, Clerk

Presented by Representative PINEAU of Jay.
Cosponsored by Senator MARTIN of Aroostook and
Representatives: BERRY of Livermore, COWGER of Hallowell, ESTES of Kittery,
MARRACHE of Waterville, MATTHEWS of Winslow, O'NEIL of Saco, RICHARD of
Madison, Speaker SAXL of Portland.

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

2
4
6
8
10
12
14
16
18
20
22
24
26
28
30
32
34
36
38
40
42
44
46

Sec. 1. 5 MRSA §286-B is enacted to read:

§286-B. Joint venture for self-funded group health plan

1. Joint venture. The State, through the State Employee Health Commission, and counties and municipalities that choose to participate, through the Maine Municipal Association or its successor organization, may establish a self-funded group health plan through a joint venture.

2. Competitive bidding. The State Employee Health Commission and the Maine Municipal Association or its successor organization shall contract by competitive bidding with a 3rd-party administrator or any organization to administer and manage the self-funded group health plan under subsection 1. A written contract must be fully executed within 90 days of notification of bid acceptance to the administrator. Notwithstanding any other provision of law, the term of the contract may not exceed 3 years.

3. Eligibility. The following persons are eligible for participation in a self-funded group health plan established pursuant to this section:

A. Those persons eligible for a group health plan pursuant to section 285, subsections 1 and 1-A; and

B. Employees of counties and municipalities and instrumentalities of those counties and municipalities, including quasi-municipal corporations, as determined by those counties and municipalities and employees of members of the Maine Municipal Association or its successor organization, as determined by the association, notwithstanding section 285, subsection 1-B.

4. Restrictions on self-funded group health plan. A self-funded group health plan established through a joint venture pursuant to this section must meet the requirements of section 285, subsection 9.

5. Not insurance. The operation of a joint venture for a self-funded group health plan pursuant to this section does not constitute the business of insurance.

SUMMARY

2

4

6

This bill authorizes the State to form a joint venture with participating counties and municipalities for a self-funded group health plan for state, county and municipal employees.