

MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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L.D. 1744

DATE: *May 24, 2001*

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HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES

Reported by:

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**STATE OF MAINE
SENATE
120TH LEGISLATURE
FIRST REGULAR SESSION**

COMMITTEE AMENDMENT "*A*" to S.P. 572, L.D. 1744, Bill, "An Act to Ensure Patient Access to Medicines"

Amend the bill by striking out the title and substituting the following:

'An Act to Require Rulemaking Pertaining to Prior Authorization for Prescription Drugs under the Medicaid Program'

Further amend the bill by striking out everything after the enacting clause and before the summary and inserting in its place the following:

'Sec. 1. Rulemaking. By November 1, 2001, the Department of Human Services shall adopt rules regarding prior authorization for prescription drugs under the Medicaid program. Rules adopted pursuant to this section are routine technical rules as defined by Title 5, chapter 375, subchapter II-A.'

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

'FISCAL NOTE

The Bureau of Medical Services within the Department of Human Services will incur some minor additional costs to adopt rules associated with prior authorization for prescription drugs under the Medicaid program. These costs can be absorbed within the department's existing budgeted resources.

COMMITTEE AMENDMENT "A" to S.P. 572, L.D. 1744

2 This estimate assumes that the prior authorization for the
prescription drugs program continues to operate during the
rule-making process. The Governor's proposed "current services"
4 budget proposal includes General Fund savings of \$3,127,703 and
\$3,688,086 in fiscal years 2001-02 and 2002-03, respectively,
6 associated with the prior authorization for the prescription
drugs program. A delay or discontinuance of this program would
8 result in either a partial or total loss of these savings.'

10
12 **SUMMARY**

14 This amendment is the majority report of the Joint Standing
Committee on Health and Human Services. It replaces the bill.
It provides a new title. It requires the Department of Human
16 Services to adopt rules by November 1, 2001 regarding prior
authorization for prescription drugs under the Medicaid program.
18 The amendment also adds a fiscal note to the bill.