



121st MAINE LEGISLATURE

FIRST REGULAR SESSION-2003

Legislative Document

No. 20

H.P. 27

House of Representatives, January 14, 2003

An Act to Extend the Authority of the Health Care System and Health Security Board

(EMERGENCY)

Reported by Representative KANE of Saco for the Health Care System and Health Security Board pursuant to Public Law 2001, chapter 439, Part ZZZ, section 1.

Reference to the Committee on Health and Human Services suggested and ordered printed under Joint Rule 218.

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MILLICENT M. MacFARLAND Clerk **Emergency preamble. Whereas,** Acts of the Legislature do not become effective until 90 days after adjournment unless enacted as emergencies; and

Whereas, it is essential for the effective operation of the Health Care System and Health Security Board that certain changes be made immediately in the terms of the initial appointees and that the board be authorized to continue its work; and

10 Whereas, in the judgment of the Legislature, these facts create an emergency within the meaning of the Constitution of 12 Maine and require the following legislation as immediately necessary for the preservation of the public peace, health and 14 safety; now, therefore,

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

18 Sec. 1. PL 2001, c. 439, Pt. ZZZ, §1, sub-§1, ¶¶D and E are amended to read:

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Two members of-the-House-of-Representatives appointed by D. 22 the Speaker of the House of Representatives who are serving in the House of Representatives at the time of their appointment with preference to members of the joint standing 24 committee of the Legislature having jurisdiction over health 26 and human services matters, the joint standing committee of the Legislature having jurisdiction over appropriations and financial affairs and the joint standing committee of the 28 Legislature having jurisdiction over banking and insurance 30 matters;

32 Ε. Two members of-the-Senate appointed by the President of the Senate who are serving in the Senate at the time of their appointment with preference to members of the joint 34 standing committee of the Legislature having jurisdiction over health and human services matters, the joint standing 36 the Legislature having jurisdiction committee of over 38 appropriations and financial affairs and the joint standing committee of the Legislature having jurisdiction over banking and insurance matters; 40

- 42 Sec. 2. PL 2001, c. 439, Pt. ZZZ, §1, sub-§§2 and 3 are amended to read:
- 2. Chairs. The first-named Senate member is the Senate
 46 chair and the first-named House member is the House chair of the
 board. The Senate and House chairs may continue to serve until
 48 successors are appointed.

3. Appointments; convening board. All appointments must be
 made no later than 30 days following the effective date of this
 Part. Appointed members may continue to serve until their
 successors are appointed. The chairs shall call and convene the
 first meeting of the board within 30 days of completion of all
 appointments.

8 Sec. 3. PL 2001, c. 439, Pt. ZZZ, §1, sub-§§8 and 9 are amended to read:

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Compensation. Those members of the board who 8. are 12 Legislators or were Legislators at the time of their appointment are entitled to receive the legislative per diem as defined in 14 the Maine Revised Statutes, Title 3, section 2 and reimbursement for travel and other necessary expenses related to their attendance at meetings of the board. 16 <u>If funds are available,</u> public members of the board who are not otherwise compensated by 18 their employers or other entities whom they represent may apply for reimbursement of travel and other necessary expenses related 20 to their attendance at meetings of the board held after January 15, 2003.

Based on its review, the board shall develop 9. Report. 24 recommendations regarding the implementation of a single-payor plan to provide health care coverage to all citizens of this 26 State and shall submit its final report, together with any necessary implementing legislation, to the Second Regular Session 28 of the 120th 121st Legislature by March-1,-2002 January 1, 2004. If-the-board-requires-an-extension of time to make -its-report -it may--apply--to--the--Legislative--Council,--which--may--grant--the 30 extension. The board shall submit an interim report, together 32 with any necessary implementing legislation, to the First Regular Session of the 121st Legislature by January 15, 2003. Upon submission of the final report, the board may not take further 34 action unless further action is authorized by law.

Sec. 4. Retroactivity. This Act is retroactive to September 38 21, 2001.

40 **Emergency clause.** In view of the emergency cited in the preamble, this Act takes effect when approved.

44 SUMMARY

46 This bill extends the authority of the Health Care System and Health Security Board to continue its work and submit a final 48 report by January 1, 2004. The bill requires that the board submit an interim report by January 15, 2003. The bill also 50 allows members appointed when they were Legislators to continue to serve until successors are appointed. 2 The bill is retroactive to the date when the legislation creating the Health Care System and Health Security Board was 4 first enacted.