

# MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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7  
2003

L.D. 58

DATE: 5-19-03

(Filing No. H-444)

HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES

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STATE OF MAINE  
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES  
121ST LEGISLATURE  
FIRST REGULAR SESSION

COMMITTEE AMENDMENT "A" to H.P. 66, L.D. 58, "Resolve, to Expand the Choices of People Seeking Mental Health Therapy Under the MaineCare Program"

Amend the resolve by striking out everything after the title and before the summary and inserting in its place the following:

**Sec. 1. Demonstration project. Resolved:** That the Department of Human Services in cooperation with the Department of Behavioral and Developmental Services is authorized to undertake a demonstration project in one or more regions of the State to permit a limited number of licensed clinical social workers, licensed clinical professional counselors and licensed marriage and family therapists to obtain direct reimbursement from the Department of Human Services for the delivery of covered mental health services to MaineCare members. The demonstration project must be budget-neutral to the MaineCare program. Operation of the demonstration project is subject to the following conditions:

**1. Therapeutic relationship.** The demonstration project may not cause significant disruption of the therapeutic relationship between MaineCare members and the mental health professionals providing treatment to them; and

**2. Credentials.** A mental health professional permitted direct reimbursement under the demonstration project must meet the credential, professional, supervision and quality assurance

**COMMITTEE AMENDMENT**

requirements applicable to the profession and those requirements developed by the Department of Human Services in cooperation with the Department of Behavioral and Developmental Services; and be it further

**Sec. 2. Reports. Resolved:** That the Department of Behavioral and Developmental Services and the Department of Human Services shall report by January 15, 2004 and October 30, 2004 to the Joint Standing Committee on Health and Human Services regarding the following: the number of regions in which the demonstration project was established, whether the project expanded access to mental health services, whether the project was cost-effective, whether savings were achieved and, if so, recommendations for use of those savings and the effect of the project on the mental health infrastructure in the State.'

### SUMMARY

This amendment replaces the resolve. It authorizes the establishment of a demonstration project to permit a limited number of licensed clinical social workers, licensed clinical professional counselors and licensed marriage and family therapists to directly bill the Department of Human Services for mental health treatment provided to MaineCare members. The amendment requires the demonstration project to be budget-neutral and prohibits it from interfering in the relationships between MaineCare members and their mental health providers. The amendment adds reporting dates of January 15, 2004 and October 30, 2004.

FISCAL NOTE REQUIRED  
(See attached)



**121st Maine Legislature**  
**Office of Fiscal and Program Review**

**LD 58**

**Resolve, to Expand the Choices of People Seeking Mental Health  
Therapy Under the MaineCare Program**

**LR 0716(02)**

**Fiscal Note for Bill as Amended by Committee Amendment " "**

**Committee: Health and Human Services**

**Fiscal Note Required: Yes**

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**Fiscal Note**

Minor cost increase - General Fund