

MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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122nd MAINE LEGISLATURE

SECOND REGULAR SESSION-2006

Legislative Document

No. 1845

H.P. 1285

House of Representatives, January 3, 2006

An Act To Increase Access to Health Insurance Products

Approved for introduction by a majority of the Legislative Council pursuant to Joint Rule 203.

Received by the Clerk of the House on December 28, 2005. Referred to the Committee on Insurance and Financial Services pursuant to Joint Rule 308.2 and ordered printed pursuant to Joint Rule 401.

Millicent M. MacFarland
MILLICENT M. MacFARLAND
Clerk

Presented by Representative BRYANT of Windham.
Cosponsored by Senator BRYANT of Oxford and
Representatives: DUPLESSIE of Westbrook, PATRICK of Rumford, PERRY of Calais.

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

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3 **Sec. 1. 24-A MRS**A §6910, sub-§2, as amended by PL 2005, c.
4 400, Pt. C, §8, is further amended to read:

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7 **2. Alternative nonprofit health care plan.** If a health
8 insurance carriers-do-not-apply carrier or the board cancels or
9 fails to renew a contract to offer and deliver Dirigo Health
10 Program coverage, the board may have Dirigo Health provide access
11 to health insurance by proposing ~~the establishment of a nonprofit~~
12 ~~health-care-plan-organized-under--Title--13-B--and--authorized~~
13 ~~pursuant-to-Title-24, chapter-19~~ and establishing an alternative
14 organizational structure or by ~~proposing--the--expansion--of~~
15 ~~expanding~~ an existing public plan. ~~If-the-board-proposes--the~~
16 ~~establishment-of-a-nonprofit-health-care-plan-or-the-expansion-of~~
17 ~~an-existing-public-plan,--the-board-shall-submit-its-proposal,~~
18 ~~including,--but-not-limited-to,--a-funding-mechanism-to-capitalize~~
19 ~~a-nonprofit-health-care-plan-and-any-recommended-legislation-to~~
20 ~~the--joint--standing--committee--of--the--Legislature--having~~
21 ~~jurisdiction-over-health-insurance-matters.--Dirigo-Health-may-not~~
22 ~~provide-access-to-health-insurance-by-establishing-a-nonprofit~~
23 ~~health-care-plan-or-through-an-existing-public-plan-without~~
24 ~~specific-legislative-approval.~~

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SUMMARY

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29 This bill allows the Board of Directors of Dirigo Health to
30 cancel or not renew a contract with an insurance carrier to
31 provide health care insurance to members of Dirigo Health. In
32 the event of cancellation or nonrenewal of a contract to provide
33 health care insurance under Dirigo Health by either the insurance
34 carrier or the board, the board is authorized to establish an
35 alternative organizational structure to provide health insurance
36 coverage or to expand an existing public plan without seeking
legislative approval.