

MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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123rd MAINE LEGISLATURE

FIRST REGULAR SESSION-2007

Legislative Document

No. 688

H.P. 519

House of Representatives, February 9, 2007

An Act To Establish a Universal Health Care Program

Reference to the Committee on Insurance and Financial Services suggested and ordered printed.

Millicent M. MacFarland
MILLICENT M. MacFARLAND
Clerk

Presented by Representative TUTTLE of Sanford.
Cosponsored by Representative PRIEST of Brunswick, Senator SULLIVAN of York and Representatives: BRAUTIGAM of Falmouth, CANAVAN of Waterville, CROCKETT of Augusta, Speaker CUMMINGS of Portland, FAIRCLOTH of Bangor, MILLER of Somerville, PATRICK of Rumford, PINGREE of North Haven.

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

2 **CONCEPT DRAFT**
3 **SUMMARY**

4 This bill is a concept draft pursuant to Joint Rule 208.

5 This bill proposes to make the following changes to the laws governing health
6 insurance and the Dirigo Health Program modeled on recent changes made by the
7 Commonwealth of Massachusetts:

8 1. It would require that an individual in this State obtain health insurance coverage
9 unless the individual qualifies for coverage under a public plan on the basis of income;

10 2. It would require all employers in this State with more than 10 full-time employees
11 to offer health insurance coverage to their employees or pay a fair-share assessment to the
12 State in lieu of providing coverage;

13 3. It would establish the Maine Health Insurance Connector within the Dirigo Health
14 Program to facilitate the purchase of health insurance by individuals in this State through
15 a pretax payroll deduction mechanism; and

16 4. It would merge the individual and small group health insurance markets for rating
17 purposes.