



123rd MAINE LEGISLATURE

SECOND REGULAR SESSION-2008

Legislative Document

No. 2286

S.P. 910

March 31, 2008

Resolve, Implementing the Recommendations of the Commission To Study Primary Care Medical Practice

Reported by Senator BRANNIGAN of Cumberland for the Joint Standing Committee on Health and Human Services pursuant to Joint Order, S.P. 732.

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JOY J. O'BRIEN Secretary of the Senate

1 Sec. 1. Patient-centered medical home. Resolved: That the Governor's 2 Office of Health Policy and Finance and the Department of Health and Human Services 3 shall report to the joint standing committee of the Legislature having jurisdiction over health and human services matters by January 15, 2009 on activities for implementing a 4 multipayor patient-centered medical home pilot project. The report shall include specific 5 recommendations for the application of the medical home concept to the MaineCare 6 program and any legislation necessary for implementation. The pilot project must include 7 8 specific standards for quality, access and integration as well as standards for appropriate 9 reimbursement for medical home physicians; and be it further

10 Sec. 2. Physician fee schedule. Resolved: That the Department of Health and 11 Human Services shall report to the joint standing committee of the Legislature having 12 jurisdiction over health and human services matters by January 15, 2009 on activities for 13 implementing a single physician fee schedule for the MaineCare program. The report 14 shall include specific recommendations for adequate reimbursement for physicians who 15 serve as a patient's medical home under the patient-centered medical home model; and be 16 it further

17 Sec. 3. Streamline MaineCare procedures for cost-effective prescribers. Resolved: That the Governor's Office of Health Policy and Finance and the Department 18 19 of Health and Human Services, Office of MaineCare Services shall report to the joint 20 standing committee of the Legislature having jurisdiction over health and human services matters by January 15, 2009 on activities for implementing processes similar to those that 21 22 are in place for specialists that will exempt primary care physicians and other practitioners who demonstrate a history of cost-effective prescribing that meets the needs 23 24 of patients from certain preauthorization requirements; and be it further

25 Sec. 4. Provide flexibility in dispensing prescribed medications. 26 Resolved: That the Governor's Office of Health Policy and Finance, the Maine Board of Pharmacy and the Department of Health and Human Services, Office of MaineCare 27 28 Services shall report to the joint standing committee of the Legislature having jurisdiction 29 over health and human services matters by January 15, 2009 on the feasibility of adopting flexible pharmacy dispensing standards. The report must assess the prospect of allowing a 30 pharmacist to dispense prescribed medication in a dosage that varies from the prescription 31 but is equivalent to the overall dosage prescribed. The report must include an analysis of 32 the impact on patient medication compliance and costs to the health care system and 33 34 MaineCare as well as other unintended consequences.

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SUMMARY

This resolve directs the Governor's Office of Health Policy and Finance and the Department of Health and Human Services to report to the joint standing committee of the Legislature having jurisdiction over health and human services matters by January 15, 2009 on activities for implementing a multipayor patient-centered medical home pilot project and for streamlining preauthorization processes for primary care physicians who are cost-effective prescribers. It requires the Department of Health and Human Services to report to the joint standing committee of the Legislature having jurisdiction over health and human services matters by January 15, 2009 on activities for implementing a single physician fee schedule for the MaineCare program. It requires the Governor's Office of Health Policy and Finance, the Maine Board of Pharmacy and the Department of Health and Human Services, Office of MaineCare Services to report to the joint standing committee of the Legislature having jurisdiction over health and human services matters by January 15, 2009 on the feasibility of adopting flexible prescribed medication dispensing standards for pharmacists.

FISCAL NOTE REQUIRED (See attached)



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LR 3603(01)

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> Fiscal Note for Original Bill Committee: Health and Human Services Fiscal Note Required: Yes

Fiscal Note

Minor cost increase - General Fund

Fiscal Detail and Notes

Any additional costs incurred in meeting the bill's reporting requirements can be absorbed by the Governor's Office of Health Policy and Finance, the Department of Health and Human Services, and the Maine Board of Pharmacy utilizing existing budgeted resources.