

# MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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**STATE OF MAINE**  
130<sup>TH</sup> LEGISLATURE  
FIRST REGULAR AND FIRST SPECIAL SESSIONS



Disposition of bills and summaries of all laws enacted or finally passed

**JOINT STANDING COMMITTEE ON HEALTH COVERAGE,  
INSURANCE AND FINANCIAL SERVICES**

December 2021

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**JOINT STANDING COMMITTEE ON HEALTH COVERAGE,  
INSURANCE AND FINANCIAL SERVICES**

**LD 1 An Act To Establish the COVID-19 Patient Bill of Rights and To Amend the Governor's Emergency Powers**

**ENACTED LAW SUMMARY**

Public Law 2021, chapter 28 does the following.

Part A requires health insurance carriers to provide coverage for COVID-19 screening, testing and immunization services and prohibits a carrier from imposing any cost-sharing requirements on consumers for those services. Part A makes it clear that out-of-network providers may not balance bill for those services. Part A also requires providers to provide prior notice to all patients of any payment or upfront charge and the amount of that payment or charge that will be due from the patient for COVID-19 screening and testing.

Part B authorizes a pharmacist to administer and order COVID-19 vaccines licensed by the United States Food and Drug Administration that are recommended by the United States Centers for Disease Control and Prevention Advisory Committee on Immunization Practices for administration. Part B also requires that health insurance carriers cover a prescription drug prescribed and dispensed to a patient in a quantity sufficient for an extended period of time, not to exceed a 180-day supply, during a state of emergency declared by the Governor, except for certain contraceptive supplies or opioid medications.

Part C requires that the Governor, in dealing with a declared state of emergency, ensure that medical privacy requirements are followed and that health care services and surgeries are not considered nonessential services.

Part D allows delegation of authority by an on-site clinician to certain persons for the administration of COVID-19 vaccines at point-of-dispensing vaccine sites.

Public Law 2021, chapter 28 was enacted as an emergency measure effective March 25, 2021.

**LD 4 An Act To Amend the Maine Pharmacy Act**

**ENACTED LAW SUMMARY**

Public Law 2021, chapter 289 makes the following changes to the Maine Pharmacy Act.

1. It clarifies the responsibility of the pharmacist in charge of a pharmacy.
2. It repeals the character reference requirement for licensure.
3. It repeals outdated language related to licensure by endorsement and replaces it with language authorizing the Maine Board of Pharmacy to adopt rules to grant licensure by endorsement, consistent with similar authority granted to other professional licensing boards.