

MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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STATE OF MAINE
130TH LEGISLATURE
FIRST REGULAR AND FIRST SPECIAL SESSIONS



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

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INSURANCE AND FINANCIAL SERVICES**

December 2021

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

LD 31 An Act To Adopt the Occupational Therapy Licensure Compact

ENACTED LAW SUMMARY

Public Law 2021, chapter 324 enacts the Occupational Therapy Licensure Compact, an interstate compact designed to facilitate the practice of occupational therapy across state boundaries to improve access to occupational therapy services where the patient is located at the time of the encounter.

LD 41 Resolve, Regarding Legislative Review of Portions of Chapter 570: Uniform Reporting System for Prescription Drug Price Data Sets, a Major Substantive Rule of the Maine Health Data Organization

ENACTED LAW SUMMARY

Resolve 2021, chapter 81 authorizes final adoption of portions of Chapter 570: Uniform Reporting System for Prescription Drug Price Data Sets, a major substantive rule of the Maine Health Data Organization.

LD 46 An Act To Further Protect Consumers from Surprise Medical Bills

ENACTED LAW SUMMARY

Public Law 2021, chapter 222 provides that information on provider charges as reported by the Maine Health Data Organization or, if Maine Health Data Organization claims data is insufficient or otherwise inapplicable, another independent medical claims database specified by the Superintendent of Insurance must be used to determine the amount a carrier must reimburse an out-of-network provider under certain circumstances. It removes the requirement that a benchmarking database be maintained by a nonprofit organization that is not affiliated with and does not receive funding from a carrier. It bases the amount a carrier must reimburse an out-of-network provider or enrollee on the rate paid for a health care service in the geographic area where the service is provided rather than on the rate paid for a health care service in an enrollee's geographic area.

Public Law 2021, chapter 222 also eliminates the provision of law requiring a health insurance carrier to reimburse an out-of-network provider for the provider's charge if the difference between the provider's charge and carrier's median network rate is less than \$750 with respect to surprise medical bills or bills for covered emergency services rendered by an out-of-network provider. Instead, Public Law 2021, chapter 222 prohibits an out-of-network provider from initiating the dispute resolution process for a health care service for a period of 90 days following a determination by an independent dispute resolution entity of a fee for that same health care service.

Public Law 2021, chapter 222 was enacted as an emergency measure effective June 16, 2021.