

Date:

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**HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES**

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**STATE OF MAINE  
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES  
126TH LEGISLATURE  
SECOND REGULAR SESSION**

COMMITTEE AMENDMENT “ ” to H.P. 1246, L.D. 1740, Bill, “An Act To Amend Laws Relating to Health Care Data”

Amend the bill by striking out all of section 1.

Amend the bill in section 2 in paragraph F-3 in the 4th line (page 1, line 27 in L.D.) by striking out the following: "and maintained by"

Amend the bill by striking out all of section 5 and inserting the following:

**'Sec. 5. 22 MRSA §8702, sub-§4-B** is enacted to read:

**4-B. HIPAA.** "HIPAA" means the federal Health Insurance Portability and Accountability Act of 1996.

**Sec. 6. 22 MRSA §8702, sub-§8-C** is enacted to read:

**8-C. Protected health information.** "Protected health information" includes:

A. "Protected health information" as defined in 45 Code of Federal Regulations, Section 160.103 (2013);

B. Individually identifiable health information:

(1) That is demographic information about an individual reported to the organization that relates to the past, present or future physical or mental health or condition of the individual;

(2) That pertains to the provision of health care to an individual; or

(3) That relates to the past, present or future payment for the provision of health care to an individual and that identifies, or with respect to which there is a reasonable basis to believe the information could be used to identify, the individual; and

C. "Health care information" as defined in section 1711-C, subsection 1, paragraph E.'

**COMMITTEE AMENDMENT**

1 Amend the bill by inserting after section 8 the following:

2 **'Sec. 9. 22 MRSA §8708, sub-§7,** as enacted by PL 1995, c. 653, Pt. A, §2 and  
3 affected by §7, is amended to read:

4 **7. Authority to obtain information.** Nothing in this section may be construed to  
5 limit the board's authority to obtain information that it considers necessary to carry out its  
6 duties. The board shall adopt rules regarding the definition, collection, use and release of  
7 clinical data before collecting any type of clinical data that it did not collect as of March  
8 1, 2014. Rules adopted pursuant to this subsection are major substantive rules as defined  
9 in Title 5, chapter 375, subchapter 2-A.'

10 Amend the bill in section 9 in §8714 in subsection 1 in the next to the last line (page  
11 3, line 3 in L.D.) by inserting after the following: "health information" the following:  
12 'except that an individual's identifying health information may be used to the extent  
13 necessary to prosecute civil or criminal violations regarding information in the  
14 organization database'

15 Amend the bill in section 9 in §8714 by striking out all of subsection 2 (page 3, lines  
16 5 to 11 in L.D.) and inserting the following:

17 **'2. General public access; confidentiality.** The board shall adopt rules making  
18 information provided to the organization under this chapter, except protected health  
19 information and other confidential information, available to any person upon request.'

20 Amend the bill in section 9 in §8714 in subsection 3 in paragraph B in the last line  
21 (page 3, line 19 in L.D.) by inserting after the following: "measures" the following: 'that  
22 include appropriate accountability and notification requirements as required of business  
23 associate agreements under HIPAA'

24 Amend the bill in section 9 in §8714 in subsection 3 in paragraph D in the last line  
25 (page 3, line 25 in L.D.) by inserting after the following: "board" the following:  
26 'consistent with state and federal laws'

27 Amend the bill in section 9 in §8714 in subsection 4 in the last 2 lines (page 3, lines  
28 29 and 30 in L.D.) by striking out all of the last sentence.

29 Amend the bill in section 9 in §8714 by striking out all of subsection 10 (page 4, lines  
30 12 and 13 in L.D.) and inserting the following:

31 **'10. Other privacy protections.** Individually identifiable data submitted to the  
32 organization that would be protected by Title 5, sections 19203 and 19203-D, Title 34-B,  
33 section 1207 or 42 United States Code, Section 290dd-2 may not be linked or reidentified  
34 in any way that identifies an individual or in any way for which there is a reasonable  
35 basis to believe the information could be used to identify an individual. The board shall  
36 adopt rules to ensure privacy and security protections of the data that are at least  
37 equivalent to the privacy and security requirements of HIPAA.'

38 Amend the bill in section 9 in §8714 by adding at the end the following:

39 **'12. Oversight and notification to individuals.** Rules developed pursuant to this  
40 section must include a definition of "breach" and a procedure for notification to affected  
41 individuals that is equivalent to those of HIPAA. If a breach requiring notification to  
42 affected individuals has occurred, the board shall notify the joint standing committee of

1 the Legislature having jurisdiction over health and human services matters within 30 days  
2 of the breach. Information provided pursuant to this subsection must maintain the  
3 confidentiality of all individuals affected by the breach.

4 **13. Individual complaints.** The board shall adopt rules to establish a process for an  
5 individual to file a complaint if the individual believes that the individual's protected  
6 health information has been released by the organization, the board or an employee of the  
7 organization, in violation of the board's rules.

8 **14. Rulemaking.** The board shall adopt rules as necessary to implement this section.  
9 Rules adopted pursuant to this section are major substantive rules as described in Title 5,  
10 chapter 375, subchapter 2-A.'

11 Amend the bill in section 9 in §8715 by striking out all of subsection 3 (page 4, lines  
12 26 to 30 in L.D.) and inserting the following:

13 **'3. Data use agreement.** Prior to disclosing any data under subsection 1, the  
14 organization shall enter into a data use agreement with a public health authority. The  
15 agreement must include protocols that have been approved by the board for safeguarding  
16 confidential information and for ensuring there will be no disclosures of protected health  
17 information. The protocols must include appropriate accountability and notification  
18 requirements as in the business associate agreements under HIPAA.'

19 Amend the bill in section 9 in §8716 by striking out all of subsection 5 (page 5, lines  
20 18 to 22 in L.D.) and inserting the following:

21 **'5. Data use agreement.** Prior to disclosing any data pursuant to subsection 1, the  
22 organization shall enter into a data use agreement with a study entity. The agreement  
23 must include protocols that have been approved by the board for safeguarding  
24 confidential information and for ensuring there will be no disclosures of protected health  
25 information. The protocols must include appropriate accountability and notification  
26 requirements as in business associate agreements under HIPAA.'

27 Amend the bill in section 9 in §8717 in subsection 1 in the 6th line (page 5, line 29 in  
28 L.D.) by striking out the following: "or had"

29 Amend the bill in section 9 in §8717 by striking out all of subsection 3 (page 6, lines  
30 18 and 21 in L.D.) and inserting the following:

31 **'3. Choice regarding disclosure of information.** Before approving the release of  
32 any protected health information under this chapter, the organization shall implement a  
33 mechanism that allows an individual to choose to not allow the organization to disclose  
34 and use the individual's health information under this chapter.'

35 Amend the bill by adding after section 9 the following:

36 **'Sec. 10. Rule-making authority.** The Board of Directors of the Maine Health  
37 Data Organization shall adopt rules as necessary to implement this Act. Rules adopted  
38 pursuant to this section are major substantive rules as described in the Maine Revised  
39 Statutes, Title 5, chapter 375, subchapter 2-A.

40 **Sec. 11. Contingent effective date.** Those sections of this Act that amend the  
41 Maine Revised Statutes, Title 22, section 1711-C, subsection 6, paragraph F-3 and  
42 sections 8702 and 8705-A, repeal Title 22, section 8707 and enact Title 22, sections 8714

1 to 8717 take effect upon the final adoption of major substantive rules required to  
2 implement the provisions of this Act. The Board of Directors of the Maine Health Data  
3 Organization shall notify the Revisor of Statutes when the major substantive rules  
4 authorized under this Act are finally adopted.'

5 Amend the bill by relettering or renumbering any nonconsecutive Part letter or  
6 section number to read consecutively.

7 **SUMMARY**

8 This amendment makes the following changes to the bill.

9 1. It adds a definition of "HIPAA," which is the federal Health Insurance Portability  
10 and Accountability Act of 1996.

11 2. The bill amends the definition of "health care information" as it regards hospitals  
12 and medical care. The amendment strikes that change and instead inserts those  
13 provisions into the definition of "protected health information" for the Maine Health Data  
14 Organization.

15 3. It adds privacy protections to prevent the release of protected health information  
16 for individuals with HIV and individuals undergoing mental health or substance abuse  
17 treatment.

18 4. It requires the Board of Directors of the Maine Health Data Organization to adopt  
19 rules to ensure privacy and security protections of data that are equivalent to the  
20 requirements in the federal Health Insurance Portability and Accountability Act of 1996.

21 5. It requires the Board of Directors of the Maine Health Data Organization to  
22 provide a definition of "breach" and notifications regarding breaches that are equivalent  
23 to the requirements in the federal Health Insurance Portability and Accountability Act of  
24 1996. It requires a breach to be reported to the joint standing committee of the  
25 Legislature having jurisdiction over health and human services matters within 30 days of  
26 the breach.

27 6. It requires the Board of Directors of the Maine Health Data Organization to  
28 develop rules to establish a complaints procedure for individuals who believe their  
29 protected health information has been released inappropriately.

30 7. It prohibits the Maine Health Data Organization from collecting any clinical data  
31 that are different from the data the organization collects as of March 1, 2014 without  
32 rulemaking. These rules are major substantive rules.

33 8. It adds an effective date so that the sections limiting the collection of clinical data  
34 and granting rule-making authority go into effect 90 days after adjournment and the rest  
35 of the Act goes into effect upon final adoption of major substantive rules.