

PUBLIC HEARING SCHEDULED: March 24, 2011, 1:00pm, Education and Cultural Affairs

PLEASE NOTE: Legislative Information *cannot* perform research, provide legal advice, or interpret Maine law. For legal assistance, please contact a qualified attorney.

Resolve, Directing the Office of Program Evaluation and Government Accountability To Make Recommendations To Find Efficiencies in Per-pupil Costs Associated with Interscholastic Activities

Sec. 1 Office of Program Evaluation and Government Accountability to provide accounting. Resolved: That, no later than December 7, 2011, the Office of Program Evaluation and Government Accountability shall provide an accounting of the money spent by school administrative units on a per-pupil basis for interscholastic activities and make recommendations to the Joint Standing Committee on Education and Cultural Affairs regarding how to improve the efficiency of the management of statewide interscholastic activities. The Joint Standing Committee on Education and Cultural Affairs may submit a bill to the Second Regular Session of the 125th Legislature on the topic of the report by the Office of Program Evaluation and Government Accountability.

SUMMARY

This resolve directs the Office of Program Evaluation and Government Accountability to provide an accounting of the money spent by school administrative units on a per-pupil basis for interscholastic activities and make recommendations to the Joint Standing Committee on Education and Cultural Affairs regarding how to improve the efficiency of the management of statewide interscholastic activities no later than December 7, 2011. The Joint Standing Committee on Education and Cultural Affairs may submit a bill to the Second Regular Session of the 125th Legislature on the topic of the report by the Office of Program Evaluation and Government Accountability.

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An Act To Provide Public Access to Price Lists of Hospitals and Ambulatory Surgical Facilities

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

Sec. 1. 22 MRSA §1812-E, sub-§4 is enacted to read:

4. Price lists. An ambulatory surgical facility shall post in an area used by the public a list of average prices charged by the facility for the 100 most commonly performed procedures in the facility. The ambulatory surgical facility shall also post a link or page on its publicly accessible website stating its pricing policy and current average prices for the 100 most commonly performed procedures in the facility.

Sec. 2. 22 MRSA §1832 is enacted to read:

§ 1832. Hospital price lists

A hospital licensed under this chapter shall post in the hospital in an area used by the public a list of average prices charged by the hospital for the 100 most commonly performed procedures in the hospital. The hospital shall also post a link or page on its publicly accessible website stating its pricing policy and current average prices for the 100 most commonly performed procedures in the hospital.

Sec. 3. Office of Program Evaluation and Government Accountability review and report. The Office of Program Evaluation and Government Accountability shall conduct a review of efforts by hospitals in the State to reduce costs to all payers, including but not limited to efforts pursuant to the Maine Revised Statutes, Title 22, section 1722 to restrain cost increases and consolidated operating margins. The office shall report to the Joint Standing Committee on Health and Human Services and to the Government Oversight Committee by January 15, 2012 on the results of its review and shall include recommended legislation to control hospital costs.

SUMMARY

This bill requires a licensed hospital to post in the hospital in an area used by the public a list of prices charged by the hospital for the 100 most commonly performed procedures in the hospital. The hospital shall also post a link or page on its publicly accessible website stating its pricing policy and current prices for the 100 most commonly performed procedures in the hospital. The bill requires ambulatory surgical facilities to post similar price lists. The bill requires review and a report on hospital efforts to control costs from the Office of Program Evaluation and Government Accountability.