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STATE OF MAINE
ONE HUNDRED AND TWENTY-NINTH LEGISLATURE
COMMITTEE ON HEALTH COVERAGE, INSURANCE AND FINANCIAL SERVICES

To: Catherine E. Breen, Senate Chair
Drew Gattine, House Chair
Joint Standing Committee on Appropriations and Financial Affairs

From: Heather B. Sanborn, Senate Chair *HBS*
Denise A. Tepler, House Chair
Joint Standing Committee on Health Coverage, Insurance and Financial Services

Date: March 3, 2020

Subject: Health Coverage, Insurance and Financial Services Committee
Recommendations on the Governor's Supplemental Budget Bill (LD 2126)

We are writing to provide the recommendations of the Joint Standing Committee on Health Coverage, Insurance and Financial Services on the of the Governor's Supplemental Budget Bill (LD 2126) that were considered in public hearing on February 25, 2020 related to the the Department of Administrative and Financial Services, Accident, Sickness and Health Insurance Program. We have reviewed and discussed this initiative and appreciate your consideration of our recommendation.

The committee voted 11-0 (Rep. Tepler and Rep. Brennan were absent) to include the proposed initiative to authorize an additional position to support the administration of the State's group health plan to add newly eligible ancillary groups to the plan. As a result of legislation enacted last session, we concur that additional administrative support is needed to enroll new members electing to join the group health plan.

We have attached the budget worksheet provided by the Office of Fiscal and Program Review. Thank you for your consideration of our comments.

Enc.

cc: Members, Joint Standing Committee on Health Coverage, Insurance and Financial Services

HCIFS VOTE 3/3/20

Sec. A-1. Appropriations and allocations. The following appropriations and allocations are made.

ADMINISTRATIVE AND FINANCIAL SERVICES, DEPARTMENT OF

Accident - Sickness - Health Insurance 0455

Initiative: Establishes one Public Service Coordinator I position to support implementation of Public Law 2019, chapter 424, An Act To Expand Health Insurance Options for Town Academies, and Public Law 2019, chapter 446, An Act To Enhance the Retired County and Municipal Law Enforcement Officers and Municipal Firefighters Health Insurance Program, and provides funding for related All Other costs.

Ref. #: _____ Committee Vote: 11-0 AFA Vote: _____

ACCIDENT, SICKNESS AND HEALTH INSURANCE INTERNAL SERVICE FUND	2018-19	2019-20	2020-21
POSITIONS - LEGISLATIVE COUNT	0.000	1.000	1.000
Personal Services	\$0	\$20,366	\$85,027
All Other	\$0	\$1,921	\$7,685
ACCIDENT, SICKNESS AND HEALTH INSURANCE INTERNAL SERVICE FUND TOTAL	\$0	\$22,287	\$92,712

Justification:

This position is needed to keep up with the demands of more ancillary groups joining the state's health plan. Public Law 2019, chapter 424, An Act To Expand Health Insurance Options for Town Academies allows 11 Municipalities into the State's health plan effective January 2020. Approximately 800 new employees could be eligible. Public Law 2019, chapter 446, An Act To Enhance the Retired County and Municipal Law Enforcement Officers and Municipal Firefighters Health Insurance Program makes several changes to the Retired County and Municipal Law Enforcement Officers and Municipal Firefighters Health Insurance Program, including increasing the State subsidy of premiums from 45% to 55%, allowing eligible employees more time to enroll in the program, and allowing certain enrollees to join the state's health plan. It is expected that 200-250 municipalities will be eligible to participate.

ADMINISTRATIVE AND FINANCIAL SERVICES, DEPARTMENT OF

DEPARTMENT TOTALS	2018-19	2019-20	2020-21
ACCIDENT, SICKNESS AND HEALTH INSURANCE INTERNAL SERVICE FUND	\$0	\$22,287	\$92,712
DEPARTMENT TOTAL - ALL FUNDS	\$0	\$22,287	\$92,712