



125th MAINE LEGISLATURE

FIRST REGULAR SESSION-2011

Legislative Document

No. 806

H.P. 602

House of Representatives, March 3, 2011

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

Reference to the Committee on Health and Human Services suggested and ordered printed.

A handwritten signature in cursive script, reading 'Heather J.R. Priest'.

HEATHER J.R. PRIEST
Clerk

Presented by Representative BERRY of Bowdoinham.
Cosponsored by Senator LANGLEY of Hancock and
Representatives: BECK of Waterville, BOLAND of Sanford, EVES of North Berwick,
FOSSEL of Alna, MALABY of Hancock, RICHARDSON of Warren, Senator: WOODBURY
of Cumberland.

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

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

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

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

9 **§1832. Hospital price lists**

10 A hospital licensed under this chapter shall post in the hospital in an area used by the
11 public a list of average prices charged by the hospital for the 100 most commonly
12 performed procedures in the hospital. The hospital shall also post a link or page on its
13 publicly accessible website stating its pricing policy and current average prices for the
14 100 most commonly performed procedures in the hospital.

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

23 **SUMMARY**

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