



126th MAINE LEGISLATURE

FIRST REGULAR SESSION-2013

Legislative Document

No. 448

S.P. 180

In Senate, February 14, 2013

An Act To Authorize the State Employee Health Commission's Preferred Provider Program

Reference to the Committee on Insurance and Financial Services suggested and ordered printed.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'D M Grant'.

DAREK M. GRANT
Secretary of the Senate

Presented by Senator HILL of York.
Cosponsored by Speaker EVES of North Berwick and
Senators: BURNS of Washington, JACKSON of Aroostook, LANGLEY of Hancock,
PATRICK of Oxford, Representatives: BEAVERS of South Berwick, CHASE of Wells,
RYKERSON of Kittery, WEAVER of York.

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

2 **Sec. 1. 5 MRSA §285, sub-§15** is enacted to read:

3 **15. Preferred provider program.** The State Employee Health Commission may
4 develop and implement a preferred provider program, health insurance program or any
5 other program the purpose of which is to rank into tiers health care providers, including
6 hospitals and health care organizations, to determine preferred hospital or health care
7 provider status for the state employee health insurance program and to steer the state
8 employee health insurance program members to be treated by or to consult with certain
9 health care providers, including hospitals and health care organizations, based on cost and
10 quality of health care. If the commission develops such a program, the commission shall
11 develop a tiering methodology that rates or accounts for effectiveness, safety, patient
12 satisfaction and comparative cost. The commission shall adopt rules to implement this
13 subsection. Rules adopted pursuant to this subsection are major substantive rules as
14 defined in chapter 375, subchapter 2-A.

15 **SUMMARY**

16 This bill authorizes the State Employee Health Commission to develop and
17 implement a preferred provider program, health insurance program or any other program
18 the purpose of which is to rank into tiers health care providers, including hospitals and
19 health care organizations, to determine preferred hospital or health care provider status
20 for the state employee health insurance program and to steer the state employee health
21 insurance program members to be treated by or to consult with certain health care
22 providers, including hospitals and health care organizations, based on cost and quality of
23 health care. The commission is directed to adopt major substantive rules to develop and
24 implement the preferred provider program.