GOVERNOR'S VETO OVERRIDDEN

MARCH 31, 2016

CHAPTER

420

PUBLIC LAW

**STATE OF MAINE**

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**IN THE YEAR OF OUR LORD**

**TWO THOUSAND AND SIXTEEN**

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**H.P. 1042 - L.D. 1517**

# An Act To Enable an Alternative Organizational Structure To Purchase Group Health Insurance for Its Employees

**Emergency preamble. Whereas,** acts and resolves of the Legislature do not become effective until 90 days after adjournment unless enacted as emergencies; and

**Whereas,** beginning in July 2017, under the federal Affordable Care Act, certain school administrative units with fewer than 50 employees will no longer be eligible to purchase insurance benefits through their current policy providers; and

**Whereas,** without this legislation, certain employment contracts that include these benefits will have to be renegotiated and alternative organizational structures will be out of compliance with their governing interlocal agreements and state law; and

**Whereas,** in the judgment of the Legislature, these facts create an emergency within the meaning of the Constitution of Maine and require the following legislation as immediately necessary for the preservation of the public peace, health and safety; now, therefore,

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

**Sec. 1. 20-A MRSA §1001, sub-§14, ¶E,** as reallocated by RR 2011, c. 1, §25, is amended to read:

E. In order to facilitate the competitive bidding process in procuring health insurance for a school administrative unit's employees under this subsection, a school administrative unit may request from the insurer providing health insurance coverage to its employees and retirees loss information concerning all of that school administrative unit's employees and retirees and their dependents covered under the school administrative unit's policy or contract pursuant to Title 24-A, section 2803-A. <u>The school boards of the alternative organizational structure's member school administrative units may authorize the governing body of the alternative organizational structure to contract for a single health insurance policy that is offered to all eligible employees and retirees of the alternative organizational structure and its</u>