COMMUNICATIONS

(2-1) The Following Communication:

S.C. 891

STATE OF MAINE
OFFICE OF THE GOVERNOR
AUGUSTA, MAINE

13 March 2018

The 128th Legislature of the State of Maine
State House
Augusta, ME

Dear Honorable Members of the 128th Legislature:

Under the authority vested in me by Article IV, Part Third, Section 2 of the Constitution of the State of Maine, I am hereby vetoing LD 1030, “An Act To Require Health Insurance Coverage for Covered Services Provided by Naturopathic Doctors.”

This bill mandates that health insurance carriers in Maine include naturopathic doctors in their networks. Maine law has traditionally provided latitude to carriers to determine the providers for their networks subject to statutory network adequacy requirements. In practice, this bill would restrict their ability to construct provider networks to deliver quality and cost-effective services. If this bill passes, naturopaths will have no incentive to join insurance networks to perform their services as primary care physicians.

For these reasons, I return LD 1030 unsigned and vetoed. I strongly urge the Legislature to sustain it.

Sincerely,

S/Paul R. LePage
Governor

(2-2) The accompanying Bill "An Act To Require Nondiscrimination Policies in Providing Health Care Services"

S.P. 337 L.D. 1030