STATE OF MAINE
ONE HUNDRED AND TWENTY-EIGHTH LEGISLATURE
SECOND REGULAR SESSION
SENATE ADVANCED JOURNAL AND CALENDAR

Wednesday, April 4, 2018

SUPPLEMENT NO. 3

COMMUNICATIONS

(2-1) The Following Communication:

S.C. 956

STATE OF MAINE
OFFICE OF THE GOVERNOR
AUGUSTA, MAINE

3 April 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 565, “An Act Regarding the Prescribing and Dispensing of Naloxone Hydrochloride by Pharmacists.”

This bill removes a sunset provision in Maine pharmacy law which means that pharmacists will forever be permitted to prescribe and dispense naloxone. The bill also requires the Board of Pharmacy to develop training and prescribing rules for pharmacists who choose to prescribe and dispense naloxone.

The use of naloxone is only one tool in the State’s fight against opioid misuse. The Legislature’s focus on naloxone as the most important tool is sadly misplaced. As I have asserted in previous veto messages on this subject, to win the fight against abuse of opioids, we must get at the root causes and treatments of addiction, not simply offer the naloxone band aid.

Additionally, this bill is unnecessary because it is redundant. The Board of Pharmacy has already adopted proposed rules relative to the dispensing of naloxone. We do not need more rulemaking on the same subject.

Making it possible for anyone and everyone to obtain naloxone extends the misuse of opioids and is simply bad public policy.

For these reasons, I return LD 565 unsigned and vetoed. I strongly urge the Legislature to sustain it.

Sincerely,

S/Paul R. LePage
Governor

(2-2) The accompanying Bill "An Act Regarding the Prescribing and Dispensing of Naloxone Hydrochloride by Pharmacists"

S.P. 183  L.D. 565
3 April 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 1772, "Resolve, Directing the Attorney General To Update the Portions of the Consumer Law Guide Pertaining to Implied Warranties."

This bill requires the Attorney General to consult with interested parties and then review and update the Attorney General’s Consumer Law Guide by July 1, 2018, as it pertains to implied warranties on consumer goods other than motor vehicles. This resolve is simply not necessary. Appliance companies and other retailers have already notified the Attorney General of their concerns regarding implied warranties. The Consumer Law Guide is a product of the Attorney General’s Office. The Attorney General has sufficient resources and staff to review the Guide and determine whether it needs to be clarified.

For this reason, I return LD 1772 unsigned and vetoed. I strongly urge the Legislature to sustain it.

Sincerely,

S/Paul R. LePage
Governor