

5/16 FOR REVIEW

**LD 1353**  
**OTP-A (unan)**

Committee: HCIFS  
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**COMMITTEE AMENDMENT "." TO LD 1353, An Act to Establish Transparency in Primary Care Spending**

Amend the bill by striking out everything after the enacting clause and before the summary and inserting in its place the following:

**Sec. 1. 24-A MRSA §6903, sub-§13-B is enacted to read:**

**13-B. Primary care.** "Primary care" means regular check-ups, wellness and general health care provided by a provider with whom the patient has initial contact for a health issue, not including an urgent care or emergency health issue, and by whom the patient may be referred to a specialist.

**Sec. 2. 24-A MRSA §6951, sub-§12 is enacted to read:**

**12. Primary care reporting.** Beginning January 15, 2020 and annually thereafter, the forum shall submit to the Department of Health and Human Services and the joint standing committee of the Legislature having jurisdiction over health coverage and health insurance matters an annual report on primary care spending using claims data from the Maine Health Data Organization and information requested annually from payors, as defined in Title 22, section 8702, subsection 8, on the methods used to reimburse primary care providers. The report must include:

**A. Of their respective total medical expenditures, the percentage paid for primary care by commercial insurers, the MaineCare program, Medicare, the organization that administers health insurance for state employees and the Maine Education Association benefits trust and the average percentage of total medical expenditures paid for primary care across all payers; and**

**B. The methods used by commercial insurers, the MaineCare program, Medicare, the organization that administers health insurance for state employees and the Maine Education Association benefits trust to pay for primary care,**

**Sec. 3. Maine Quality Forum to conduct health spending reporting study.** The Maine Quality Forum, established in the Maine Revised Statutes, Title 24-A, section 6951, shall consult with other state and national agencies and organizations to determine the best practices for reporting spending on primary care services by insurers. For purposes of this section, "primary care" means general health care provided by a health care provider with whom the patient has initial contact for a health issue and by whom the patient may be referred to a specialist.

**SUMMARY**

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This amendment replaces the bill. The amendment requires the Maine Quality Forum to submit an annual report, beginning January 15, 2020, to the Department of Health and Human Services and the Joint Standing Committee on Health Coverage, Insurance and Financial Services, based on claims data reported to the Maine Health Data Organization and information on methods of reimbursement for primary care reported by insurers. The annual report is required to include the percentage of total medical expenditures paid for primary care by commercial insurers, the MaineCare program, Medicare, the organization that administers health insurance for state employees and the Maine Education Association benefits trust respectively, the average of the percentage of total medical expenses paid for primary care across all organizations and the methods used by these organizations to pay for primary care. The amendment also requires the Maine Quality Forum to conduct a study on best practices in health care spending reporting.