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Date: (Filing No. H- )

**HEALTH COVERAGE, INSURANCE AND FINANCIAL SERVICES**

Reproduced and distributed under the direction of the Clerk of the House.

**STATE OF MAINE  
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES  
132ND LEGISLATURE  
SECOND REGULAR SESSION**

COMMITTEE AMENDMENT “ ” to H.P. 1387, L.D. 2074, “An Act to Update the Requirements for Social Worker Licensure”

Amend the bill by inserting after the title and before the enacting clause the following:

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

**Whereas,** this legislation updates the licensing requirements for social workers to remove barriers and potential delays in the licensing process; and

**Whereas,** immediate enactment of this legislation is necessary to make it easier for persons to be licensed as social workers or to reenter the social work profession; 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,'

Amend the bill by inserting after section 13 the following:

**'Sec. 14. Continued review of licensing for social work profession.** The Director of the Office of Professional and Occupational Regulation within the Department of Professional and Financial Regulation, after consultation with the State Board of Social Worker Licensure and stakeholders, shall continue review of the Maine Revised Statutes, Title 32, chapter 83 and any laws associated with the provisions of that chapter that began before the Second Regular Session of the 132nd Legislature to recommend changes to update the licensure provisions for the social work profession, including changes to the educational and examination requirements for initial licensure and to the consultation requirements, and to recommend alternative pathways for licensure. The director shall review and identify best practices from similar efforts in other states. The director shall report any recommendations from the review conducted under this section to the joint standing committee of the Legislature having jurisdiction over health coverage, insurance

**COMMITTEE AMENDMENT**

1 and financial services matters on or before February 15, 2027. The joint standing committee  
2 may report out a bill to the 133rd Legislature in 2027 based on the review.

3 **Emergency clause.** In view of the emergency cited in the preamble, this legislation  
4 takes effect when approved.'

5 Amend the bill by relettering or renumbering any nonconsecutive Part letter or section  
6 number to read consecutively.

7 **SUMMARY**

8 This amendment requires the Director of the Office of Professional and Occupational  
9 Regulation within the Department of Professional and Financial Regulation, after  
10 consultation with the State Board of Social Worker Licensure and stakeholders, to continue  
11 review of the Maine Revised Statutes, Title 32, chapter 83 and any laws associated with  
12 the provisions of that chapter that began before the Second Regular Session of the 132nd  
13 Legislature to recommend changes to update the licensure provisions for the social work  
14 profession and to establish alternative pathways for licensure. The amendment requires the  
15 director to report any recommendations to the joint standing committee of the Legislature  
16 having jurisdiction over health coverage, insurance and financial services matters on or  
17 before February 15, 2027, and it authorizes the committee to report out a bill to the 133rd  
18 Legislature in 2027.

19 The amendment also adds an emergency preamble and emergency clause to the bill.

20 **FISCAL NOTE REQUIRED**

21 **(See attached)**