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Date: (Filing No. H-)

LABOR, COMMERCE, RESEARCH AND ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT

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**STATE OF MAINE
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
127TH LEGISLATURE
FIRST REGULAR SESSION**

COMMITTEE AMENDMENT “ ” to H.P. 568, L.D. 834, Bill, “An Act To Clarify the Use of "M.D." To Represent Achievement of a Graduate Degree by an Individual Not Licensed To Practice Medicine in Maine”

Amend the bill in section 1 by striking out all of the indented paragraph (page 1, lines 4 to 18 in L.D.) and inserting the following:

'Whoever, not being duly licensed by the board, practices medicine or surgery or a branch of medicine or surgery, or purports to practice medicine or surgery or a branch of medicine or surgery in a way cited in this section, or who uses the title "Doctor" or the letters "Dr." or the letters "M.D." in connection with that individual's name, contrary to this section, commits a Class E crime. ~~The prefixing of the title "Doctor" or the letters "Dr." or the appending of the letters "M.D." by an individual to that individual's name or the use of the title of doctor or physician in any way by an individual not licensed as described is prima facie evidence that that individual is purporting to practice medicine or surgery contrary to this section, except that nothing~~ Nothing contained in this section prevents an individual who has received the doctor's degree from a reputable college or university, other than the degree of "Doctor of Medicine" from prefixing the letters "Dr." to that individual's name, if that individual is not engaged, and does not engage, in the practice of medicine or surgery or the treatment of a disease or human ailment. Nothing contained in this section prevents an individual who has received the degree "Doctor of Medicine" from a reputable college or university but who is not engaged in the practice of medicine or surgery or the treatment of a disease or human ailment, from prefixing the letters "Dr." or appending the letters "M.D." to that individual's name, as long as that individual's license to practice has never been revoked by the board. Nothing in this chapter may be construed as to affect or prevent the practice of the religious tenets of a church in the ministrations to the sick or suffering by mental or spiritual means.'

SUMMARY

This amendment is the majority report of the committee. It allows a person who has received the doctor's degree from a reputable college or university to append the letters

COMMITTEE AMENDMENT

1 "M.D." to that person's name, if that person is not engaged in the practice of medicine or
2 surgery, as long as that person's license to practice has never been revoked by the Board
3 of Licensure in Medicine.

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FISCAL NOTE REQUIRED

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(See attached)