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Date: (Filing No. H-)

HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES

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**STATE OF MAINE
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
128TH LEGISLATURE
FIRST REGULAR SESSION**

COMMITTEE AMENDMENT “ ” to H.P. 699, L.D. 998, Bill, “An Act To Adequately Pay for Emergency Medical Services”

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

Sec. 1. 22 MRSA §3174-JJ, as amended by PL 2013, c. 441, §1, is further amended to read:

§3174-JJ. MaineCare reimbursement for ambulance services

The department shall reimburse for ambulance services under MaineCare at a level that is not less than the average allowable reimbursement rate under Medicare for such services or at the highest percent of that level that is possible within resources appropriated for those purposes. Beginning March 1, 2015, the department shall reimburse for ambulance services under MaineCare at a level that is not less than 65% of the average allowable reimbursement rate under Medicare for such services. Beginning March 1, 2018, the department shall reimburse for ambulance services under MaineCare at a level that is not less than 70% of the average allowable reimbursement rate under Medicare for such services. The department may not reduce any reimbursement rate in this section to a level that is less than the rate as of January 1, 2017.

Sec. 2. Appropriations and allocations. The following appropriations and allocations are made.

HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES, DEPARTMENT OF (FORMERLY DHS)

Medical Care - Payments to Providers 0147

Initiative: Provides appropriations and allocations to increase the reimbursement rate for ambulance services to 70% of the average allowable reimbursement rate under Medicare.

1	GENERAL FUND	2017-18	2018-19
2	All Other	\$231,334	\$694,198
3			
4	GENERAL FUND TOTAL	<u>\$231,334</u>	<u>\$694,198</u>
5	FEDERAL EXPENDITURES FUND	2017-18	2018-19
6	All Other	\$417,570	\$1,252,515
7			
8	FEDERAL EXPENDITURES FUND TOTAL	<u>\$417,570</u>	<u>\$1,252,515</u>
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10 **SUMMARY**

11 This amendment removes the provisions in the bill that relate to community
 12 paramedicine services. It increases beginning March 1, 2018 the reimbursement rate for
 13 ambulance services under the MaineCare program under current law from 65% to 70% of
 14 the average allowable reimbursement rate under Medicare. It provides that the
 15 Department of Health and Human Services may not lower any reimbursement rates for
 16 ambulance services below the rates as of January 1, 2017. The amendment also adds an
 17 appropriations and allocations section.

18 **FISCAL NOTE REQUIRED**

19 **(See attached)**