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HEALTH COVERAGE, INSURANCE AND FINANCIAL SERVICES

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STATE OF MAINE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES 132ND LEGISLATURE FIRST SPECIAL SESSION

COMMITTEE AMENDMENT “ ” to H.P. 771, L.D. 1166, “An Act to Change the Professional Title and Identification of Physician Assistants to Physician Associates”

Amend the bill in section 1 in §2594-E by striking out all of subsection 6 (page 2, lines 29 to 36 in L.D.) and inserting the following:

'6. Title and practice protection. A person who is not licensed under this section may not hold that person out to be a physician associate or use the title or designation "physician associate" or the abbreviation "P.A." or any other title, designation, words, letters or device tending to indicate that that person is licensed under this section, except that a person who meets the qualifications for licensure under subsection 2 but does not possess a current license may use the title or designation "physician associate" or the abbreviation "P.A." but may not practice as a physician associate. Notwithstanding this subsection, a person licensed as a physician assistant as of the effective date of this subsection may use the title or designation "physician assistant" or "physician associate" and this subsection does not change any rights or privileges of a person licensed as a physician assistant during the term of that person's license. Upon license renewal, a person previously licensed as a physician assistant must be licensed as a physician associate and shall thereafter hold that person out to be a physician associate and use the title or designation "physician associate."

A violation of this subsection is a Class E crime.'

Amend the bill in section 2 in §3270-E by striking out all of subsection 6 (page 4, lines 22 to 29 in L.D.) and inserting the following:

'6. Title and practice protection. A person who is not licensed under this section may not hold that person out to be a physician associate or use the title or designation "physician associate" or the abbreviation "P.A." or any other title, designation, words, letters or device tending to indicate that that person is licensed under this section, except that a person who meets the qualifications for licensure under subsection 2 but does not possess a current license may use the title or designation "physician associate" or the abbreviation "P.A." but may not practice as a physician associate. Notwithstanding this

1 subsection, a person licensed as a physician assistant as of the effective date of this
2 subsection may use the title or designation "physician assistant" or "physician associate"
3 and this subsection does not change any rights or privileges of a person licensed as a
4 physician assistant during the term of that person's license. Upon license renewal, a person
5 previously licensed as a physician assistant must be licensed as a physician associate and
6 shall thereafter hold that person out to be a physician associate and use the title or
7 designation "physician associate."

8 A violation of this subsection is a Class E crime.'

9 Amend the bill in section 3 in the last line (page 4, line 38 in L.D.) by inserting after
10 the following: "this Act" the following: 'and in Title 32, chapter 145-A'

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

13 SUMMARY

14 This amendment, which is the majority report of the committee, makes clarifying
15 changes to the bill to ensure that those licensed as physician assistants before the effective
16 date of this legislation are not required to become relicensed with the title of physician
17 associate until the time for renewal of their license. The amendment also clarifies that
18 statutory revisions to amend the term "physician assistant" to "physician associate" do not
19 apply to the Physician Assistants Licensure Compact.

20 FISCAL NOTE REQUIRED

21 (See attached)