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Date: (Filing No. H- )

**LABOR, COMMERCE, RESEARCH AND ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT**

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**STATE OF MAINE  
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES  
126TH LEGISLATURE  
FIRST REGULAR SESSION**

COMMITTEE AMENDMENT “ ” to H.P. 1026, L.D. 1437, Bill, “An Act To Amend the Laws Regarding Licensure of Physicians and Physician Assistants”

Amend the bill by striking out all of sections 1 and 2 and inserting the following:

**Sec. 1. 24 MRSA §2505, first ¶**, as amended by PL 2013, c. 105, §2, is further amended to read:

Any professional competence committee within this State and any physician or physician assistant licensed to practice or otherwise lawfully practicing within this State shall, and any other person may, report the relevant facts to the appropriate board relating to the acts of any physician or physician assistant in this State if, in the opinion of the committee, physician, physician assistant or other person, the committee or individual has reasonable knowledge of acts of the physician or physician assistant amounting to gross or repeated medical malpractice, misuse of alcohol, drugs or other substances that may result in the physician's or the physician assistant's performing services in a manner that endangers the health or safety of patients, professional incompetence, unprofessional conduct or sexual misconduct identified by board rule. The failure of any such professional competence committee or any such physician or physician assistant to report as required is a civil violation for which a fine of not more than \$1,000 may be adjudged.

**Sec. 2. 24 MRSA §2505, 2nd ¶**, as amended by PL 2013, c. 105, §3, is further amended to read:

Except for specific protocols developed by a board pursuant to Title 32, section 1073, 2596-A or 3298, a physician or physician assistant, dentist or committee is not responsible for reporting misuse of alcohol, drugs or other substances or professional incompetence or malpractice as a result of physical or mental infirmity or by the misuse of alcohol, drugs or other substances discovered by the physician, physician assistant, dentist or committee as a result of participation or membership in a professional review committee or with respect to any information acquired concerning misuse of alcohol, drugs or other substances or professional incompetence or malpractice as a result of physical or mental infirmity or by the misuse of alcohol, drugs or other substances, as long as that information is reported to the professional review committee. ~~Nothing in this~~

**COMMITTEE AMENDMENT**

1 This section ~~may~~ does not prohibit an impaired physician, physician assistant or dentist  
2 from seeking alternative forms of treatment.'

3 Amend the bill by inserting after section 5 the following:

4 **'Sec. 6. 32 MRSA §3271, sub-§2,** as amended by PL 2005, c. 162, §2, is further  
5 amended to read:

6 **2. Postgraduate training.** Each applicant who has graduated from an accredited  
7 medical school on or after January 1, 1970 but before July 1, 2004 must have  
8 satisfactorily completed at least 24 months in a graduate educational program accredited  
9 by the Accreditation Council on Graduate Medical Education, the Canadian Medical  
10 Association or the Royal College of Physicians and Surgeons of Canada.  
11 Notwithstanding other requirements of postgraduate training, an applicant is eligible for  
12 licensure when the candidate has satisfactorily graduated from a combined postgraduate  
13 training program in which each of the contributing programs is accredited by the  
14 Accreditation Council on Graduate Medical Education and the applicant is eligible for  
15 accreditation by the American Board of Medical Specialties in both specialties. Each  
16 applicant who has graduated from an accredited medical school prior to January 1, 1970  
17 must have satisfactorily completed at least 12 months in a graduate educational program  
18 accredited by the Accreditation Council on Graduate Medical Education, the Canadian  
19 Medical Association or the Royal College of Physicians and Surgeons of Canada. Each  
20 applicant who has graduated from an accredited medical school on or after July 1, 2004  
21 or an unaccredited medical school must have satisfactorily completed at least 36 months  
22 in a graduate educational program accredited by the Accreditation Council on Graduate  
23 Medical Education, the Canadian Medical Association, the Royal College of Physicians  
24 and Surgeons of Canada or the Royal Colleges of England, Ireland or Scotland. An  
25 applicant who has completed 24 months of postgraduate training and has received an  
26 unrestricted endorsement from the director of an accredited graduate education program  
27 in the State is considered to have satisfied the postgraduate training requirements of this  
28 subsection if the applicant continues in that program and completes 36 months of  
29 postgraduate training. Notwithstanding this subsection, an applicant who is board  
30 certified by the American Board of Medical Specialties is deemed to meet the  
31 postgraduate training requirements of this subsection. Notwithstanding this subsection, in  
32 the case of subspecialty or clinical fellowship programs, the board may accept in  
33 fulfillment of the requirements of this subsection postgraduate training at a hospital in  
34 which the subspecialty clinical program, such as a training program accredited by the  
35 American Dental Association Commission on Dental Accreditation or its successor  
36 organization, is not accredited but the parent specialty program is accredited by the  
37 Accreditation Council on Graduate Medical Education.'

38 Amend the bill in section 11 in paragraph Q in the last line (page 4, line 20 in L.D.)  
39 by inserting after the following: "board" the following: ', unless otherwise prohibited by  
40 state or federal law'

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

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**SUMMARY**

This amendment strikes the provision in the bill that proposes to keep the identity of any reporting physician or physician assistant confidential unless it is necessary to the investigation or adjudication of the report by the Board of Licensure in Medicine. It allows for dual trained dentists and oral surgeons to satisfy the Board of Licensure in Medicine's requirements for postgraduate training in a manner that applies to the specific training received by these licensees. It also adds language to ensure the statutory provisions governing Board of Licensure in Medicine sanctions are in compliance with federal and state laws regarding confidentiality of patient information that is the subject of a disciplinary complaint.

**FISCAL NOTE REQUIRED**

**(See attached)**