

STATE OF MAINE

—
IN THE YEAR OF OUR LORD
TWO THOUSAND TWENTY-FOUR

—
S.P. 889 - L.D. 2096

An Act to Ensure Access to Pain Management Services in Health Insurance Plans

Be it enacted by the People of the State of Maine as follows:

Sec. 1. 24-A MRSA §4311-A is enacted to read:

§4311-A. Access to pain management services

1. Access to pain management services. A carrier shall develop a plan to provide adequate coverage of and access to a broad spectrum of pain management services, including, but not limited to, nonopioid, nonnarcotic medication for pain management and nonmedication pain management services that serve as alternatives to the prescribing of opioid or narcotic drugs in accordance with guidelines developed by the bureau.

2. Approval by bureau. A carrier shall file a plan required under subsection 1 with the bureau for approval. In its review, the bureau shall consider the adequacy of access to a broad spectrum of pain management services under the plan and whether any policies adopted by the carrier may create unduly preferential coverage of and access to prescribed opioids for pain management without consideration of other pain management services.

3. Information for enrollees. A carrier shall distribute educational materials to network providers about a pain management access plan under subsection 1 and post information about the pain management access plan on the carrier's publicly accessible website.

Sec. 2. Application. This Act applies to all policies, contracts and certificates executed, delivered, issued for delivery, continued or renewed in the State on or after January 1, 2026. For purposes of this Act, all contracts are deemed to be renewed no later than the next yearly anniversary of the contract date.

Sec. 3. Appropriations and allocations. The following appropriations and allocations are made.

**PROFESSIONAL AND FINANCIAL REGULATION, DEPARTMENT OF
Insurance - Bureau of 0092**

Initiative: Provides a one-time allocation for a consultant to develop guidance on pain management plans.

OTHER SPECIAL REVENUE FUNDS	2023-24	2024-25
All Other	\$0	\$25,000
OTHER SPECIAL REVENUE FUNDS TOTAL	<u>\$0</u>	<u>\$25,000</u>