1	L.D. 687			
2	Date: (Filing No. H- )			
3	HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES			
4	Reproduced and distributed under the direction of the Clerk of the House.			
5	STATE OF MAINE			
6	HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES			
7	128TH LEGISLATURE			
8	FIRST REGULAR SESSION			
9 10	COMMITTEE AMENDMENT "" to H.P. 478, L.D. 687, Bill, "An Act Regarding Reimbursement for Speech and Language Pathology Services"			
11	Amend the bill by striking out the title and substituting the following:			
12	'Resolve, Regarding Reimbursement for Speech and Language Pathology Services'			
13 14	Amend the bill by striking out everything after the title and before the summary and inserting the following:			
15 16 17 18 19 20 21	'Sec. 1. Department of Health and Human Services to increase MaineCare reimbursement rates. Resolved: That, no later than January 1, 2018, the Department of Health and Human Services shall amend its rules in Chapter 101: MaineCare Benefits Manual, Chapter III, Section 109 to increase reimbursement rates for speech-language pathology services provided by an agency to no less than 69% of the federal Medicare reimbursement rate for these services as long as the rate is no lower than the rate reimbursed as of January 1, 2017; and be it further			
22 23 24 25 26 27	<b>Sec. 2. Independent rates. Resolved:</b> That, no later than January 1, 2018, the Department of Health and Human Services shall amend its rules in Chapter 101: MaineCare Benefits Manual, Chapter III, Section 109 to increase reimbursement rates for speech-language pathology services provided by an independent speech-language pathologist to 90% of the agency rate established in section 1 as long as the rate is no lower than the rate reimbursed as of January 1, 2017; and be it further			
28 29 30 31 32 33 34	Sec. 3. Speech-language pathology assistant agency rates. Resolved: That, no later than January 1, 2018, the Department of Health and Human Services shall amend its rules in Chapter 101: MaineCare Benefits Manual, Chapter III, Section 109 to reimburse services provided by an agency speech-language pathology assistant for treatment within a group of 2 or more individuals at 69% of the federal Medicare reimbursement rate for the same service provided by a speech-language pathologist; and be it further			

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## **COMMITTEE AMENDMENT**

Sec. 4. Speech-language pathology assistant independent rates. Resolved: 1 2 That, no later than January 1, 2018, the Department of Health and Human Services shall 3 amend its rules in Chapter 101: MaineCare Benefits Manual, Chapter III, Section 109 to reimburse services provided by an independent speech-language pathology assistant for 4 treatment within a group of 2 or more individuals at 90% of the agency rate established in 5 section 3 as long as the rate is no lower than the rate reimbursed as of January 1, 2017. 6 Services provided by independent speech-language pathology assistants for individual 7 treatment must be reimbursed at 90% of the agency rate reimbursed as of Januarv 1. 8 9 2017; and be it further

- 10 Sec. 5. Routine technical rules. Resolved: That rules adopted pursuant to this resolve are routine technical rules as defined in the Maine Revised Statutes, Title 5, 11 chapter 375, subchapter 2-A; and be it further 12
- 13 Sec. 6. Appropriations and allocations. Resolved: That the following 14 appropriations and allocations are made.
- 15 HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES, DEPARTMENT OF (FORMERLY DHS)
- Medical Care Payments to Providers 0147 16

29

- 17 Initiative: Provides appropriations and allocations for increased reimbursement of certain speech and language pathology services currently provided under Chapter 101: 18 19
- MaineCare Benefits Manual, Chapter III, Section 109, Speech and Hearing Services.

20 21 22		GENERAL FUND All Other	<b>2017-18</b> \$182,457	<b>2018-19</b> \$182,509
23		GENERAL FUND TOTAL	\$182,457	\$182,509
24 25 26		FEDERAL EXPENDITURES FUND All Other	<b>2017-18</b> \$329,345	<b>2018-19</b> \$329,294
26 27 28	,	FEDERAL EXPENDITURES FUND TOTAL	\$329,345	\$329,294

**SUMMARY** 

30 This amendment, which is the majority report of the committee, replaces the bill with a resolve. The amendment sets the reimbursement rates for speech and language 31 pathology services provided by an agency under Department of Health and Human 32 Services rule Chapter 101: MaineCare Benefits Manual, Chapter III, Section 109 at 69% 33 of the federal Medicare rate as long as the reimbursement rate is no lower than the current 34 rate. It establishes that services provided by independent speech-language pathologists 35 are set at 90% of the reimbursement rate for agencies. The amendment also establishes 36 37 reimbursement rates for agency speech-language pathology assistants for group therapy at 69% of the federal Medicare rate for equivalent services for speech-language pathologists 38 39 since there is no established Medicare rate for assistants. Rates for agency assistants

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#### COMMITTEE AMENDMENT " " to H.P. 478, L.D. 687

providing individual therapy do not change from the rate reimbursed as of January 1,
2017. Independent speech-language pathology assistant reimbursement rates are set at
90% of the agency rates for assistants. The amendment also adds an appropriations and
allocations section.

#### FISCAL NOTE REQUIRED

5 6

(See attached)

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### **COMMITTEE AMENDMENT**