

Janet T. Mills
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Commissioner



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May 8, 2023

Senator Joseph Baldacci, Chair
Representative Michelle Meyer, Chair
Members, Joint Standing Committee on Health and Human Services
100 State House Station
Augusta, ME 04333-0100

Re: LD 1858 – *An Act to Ensure Access to Newly Born Male Infant Circumcision by Requiring MaineCare Coverage*

Senator Baldacci, Representative Meyer, and Members of the Joint Standing Committee on Health and Human Services:

This letter is to provide information in opposition to LD 1858, *An Act to Ensure Access to Newly Born Male Infant Circumcision by Requiring MaineCare Coverage*. This bill requires the MaineCare program to provide reimbursement for the costs of newly born male infant circumcision beginning January 1, 2024.

Federal Medicaid regulations dictate services are only reimbursable if they are required and medically necessary. Since non-therapeutic circumcision is not medically necessary, MaineCare would not be able to claim federal match for these services. There are also concerns from some medical professionals that non-therapeutic circumcision may be harmful/risky. To remain in compliance with federal law, non-therapeutic circumcision would have to be paid for entirely with state dollars. We do not believe it would be a wise use of Department time to pursue a state plan amendment that conflicts with federal regulations.

We wanted you to be aware of the above information as you consider this bill going forward. If you have any further questions, please feel free to contact me.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Michelle Probert".

Michelle Probert
Director
MaineCare Services