

Janet T. Mills
Governor

Jeanne M. Lambrew, Ph.D.
Commissioner



Maine Department of Health and Human Services
Office of MaineCare Services
11 State House Station
Augusta, Maine 04333-0011
Tel; (207) 287-2674; Fax (207) 287-2675
TTY: Dial 711 (Maine Relay)

April 12, 2021

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

Re: LD 1147 – *Resolve, To Enhance Access to Medication Management for Individuals with Serious and Persistent Mental Illness*

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

This letter is to provide information on LD 1147, *Resolve, To Enhance Access to Medication Management for Individuals with Serious and Persistent Mental Illness*. This resolve provides for a 25% rate increase for the medication management services provided under Chapter 101: MaineCare Benefits Manual, Chapters II and III, Section 65, Behavioral Health Services, and requires the Department to amend its rules governing medication management services to respond to the increased demand and complexity of the need.

The Department shares the concern over ensuring access to medication management for people with serious and persistent mental illness. That is why we have invested \$1.75M between this and last state fiscal years to support the service while MaineCare engaged in its Comprehensive Rate Setting Evaluation (RSE), which is intended to identify services in need of adjustment or further study to ensure appropriate and adequate reimbursement. We have also adjusted fee for service contracts through the Office of Behavioral Health for SFY 22 to allow billing for time spent on Progressive Treatment Program (PTP) related work.

As seen in the table that follows, our recently completed RSE found that existing Medication Management rates are significantly higher than rates in the comparison state Medicaid programs. Further, when MaineCare increased the Medication Management rates for physicians in 2020, we also looked into updating the rate for mid-level providers but found that existing rates are already higher than rates that would result from using current salary data in the Medication Management rate model from a 2017 Burns and Associates rate study.

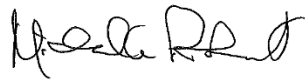
Nevertheless, the RSE comparison was not able to conduct an analysis of other state factors that may explain the demonstrated differences in reimbursement, and there is considerable variation in how other Section 65 rates compare to those for other states. As such, the RSE recommends that the Department conduct a rate study to develop new rates across the entire section of policy as a top priority. We are currently in the process of determining the timing of that review, which will include development of an alternative payment model for for Medication Management that

supports a more flexible, team-based approach to care which may align with the tiered per-member per-month approach called for in this bill.

Procedure Code	Modifier	Description	MaineCare Rate	Comparison State Ave Medicaid Rate	MaineCare as % of Comparison
H2010		Medication Management Services - Adults (mid-level provider) 15 Minutes	\$65.26	\$59.28	110.1%
H2010	AF	Medication Management Services - Adults (Physician) 15 Minutes	\$74.56	\$59.28	125.8%
H2010	HA	Medication Management Services- Children (mid-level provider) 15 Minutes	\$74.59	\$59.28	125.8%
H2010	HA AF	Medication Management Services- Children (Physician) 15 Minutes	\$80.20	\$59.28	135.3%

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,



Michelle Probert
Director
MaineCare Services