STATE OF MAINE OFFICE OF THE GOVERNOR 1 STATE HOUSE STATION AUGUSTA, MAINE 04333-0001

May 26, 2011

The 125th Legislature of the State of Maine State House Augusta, Maine

Dear Honorable Members of the 125th Legislature:

Under the authority vested in me by Article IV, Part Third, Section 2 of the Constitution of the State of Maine, I am hereby vetoing LD 1222, "An Act To Promote Fairness in Negotiations between Health Insurance Carriers and Health Care Service Providers."

My administration strongly believes that Maine businesses have the right to contract with each other as they deem appropriate. Laws and regulations that require or prohibit certain provisions of contracts take away the rights of job creators to independently organize their affairs. Blanket "one-size-fits-all" laws prevent businesses from pursuing novel and creative approaches to achieve competitive advantages.

Further, Maine's antitrust laws are strong and I have no doubts that the Office of the Attorney General will enforce them to the utmost of their ability. New laws forcing requirements on business are not necessary to ensure that fair play occurs in Maine's insurance marketplace.

For these reasons, I return LD 1222 unsigned and vetoed. I strongly urge the Legislature to sustain it.

Sincerely,

S/Paul R. LePage Governor