



STATE OF MAINE
OFFICE OF THE GOVERNOR
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AUGUSTA, MAINE
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Paul R. LePage
GOVERNOR

14 June 2013

The 126th Legislature of the State of Maine
State House
Augusta, ME

Dear Honorable Members of the 126th 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 1093, "An Act To Clarify the Criteria of the Health Professions Loan Program as It Affects Physicians Practicing Neurology-psychiatry."

This bill would provide student loan forgiveness for a single individual through the FAME health professions loan program. This stems from a denial by the professionals at the Maine Center for Disease Control and Prevention to certify the specialty this individual chose to pursue as an "underserved specialty." While the specialty chosen by this individual is important for the treatment of certain conditions, the fact is the specialty was not certified as underserved when the loans were made.

Changing the rules of entire programs to benefit a specific individual is not something the Legislature should undertake lightly. If the testimony presented to the committee indicated there was a problem with the program or certification process, I would understand a bill that provides structural changes. Instead, this bill merely provides a single individual with thousands of dollars in direct benefits. That is not something I can support.

For these reasons, I return LD 1093 unsigned and vetoed. I strongly urge the Legislature to sustain it.

Sincerely,

Paul R. LePage
Governor



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