



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

Paul R. LePage  
GOVERNOR

30 April 2018

The 128th Legislature of the State of Maine  
State House  
Augusta, ME

Dear Honorable Members of the 128<sup>th</sup> Legislature:

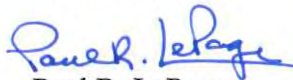
Under the authority vested in me by Article IV, Part Third, Section 2 of the Constitution of the State of Maine, I am hereby vetoing LD 1063, "Resolve, To Reduce the Number of Substance-exposed Infants."

If bills truly reflected the title they are given, I would not be vetoing this bill today. I share the concern of the Legislature that Maine's youngest, smallest citizens not be exposed to damaging and addictive substances. It is unconscionable that nearly 10 percent of Maine babies are born today affected by drugs.

This bill mandates the Department of Health and Human Services conduct outreach to make sure providers and recipients are aware that Medicaid reimburses for both contraceptive counselling and the placement of long-acting, reversible contraception. The bill provides no resources for the Department to do this new outreach, and asks them to duplicate work that has already been done.

This bill is unfunded, it is duplicative, and it is not necessary. For these reasons, I return LD 1063 unsigned and vetoed. I strongly urge the Legislature to sustain it.

Sincerely,

  
Paul R. LePage  
Governor



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