



STATE OF MAINE
OFFICE OF THE GOVERNOR
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AUGUSTA, MAINE
04333-0001

Paul R. LePage
GOVERNOR

6 July 2018

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

Dear Honorable Members of the 128th 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 687, "Resolve, Regarding Reimbursement for Speech and Language Pathology Services."

I am not necessarily opposed to appropriate rate increases for Medicaid providers, but it cannot be in isolation. Our economy is on the brink of a crisis as the minimum wage continues to increase unchecked and Maine businesses experience increasing financial pressure. We cannot continue to spend taxpayer dollars without taking decisive action to slow the rate of increase in the minimum wage and allow our economy the time it needs to adjust to the changing cost of wages. Fix the minimum wage, then we can have a conversation about rate increases to Medicaid providers.

For this reason, I return LD 687 unsigned and vetoed. I strongly urge the Legislature to sustain it.

Sincerely,

Paul R. LePage
Governor



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