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Date: (Filing No. S-)

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STATE OF MAINE
SENATE
130TH LEGISLATURE
SECOND REGULAR SESSION

SENATE AMENDMENT “ ” to COMMITTEE AMENDMENT “A” to S.P. 719, L.D. 2001, “An Act To Fund and Support the Veterans Homes in Caribou and Machias and Require Legislative Approval for the Establishment and Closure of Veterans Homes”

Amend the amendment by striking out all of section 9 and inserting the following:

Sec. 9. 37-B MRSA §612 is enacted to read:

§612. Discontinuation of services or closure of home

If the board authorizes the discontinuation of services at or the closure of a public home for veterans, the board shall notify the President of the Senate, the Speaker of the House of Representatives and the joint standing committee of the Legislature having jurisdiction over veterans affairs within 3 days of the authorization and no less than 45 days before submitting a plan for the discontinuation of services or closure of the home to the Department of Health and Human Services if required by law. Within 10 days of receiving notice under this section, the joint standing committee of the Legislature having jurisdiction over veterans affairs, with as much public notice as possible, shall hold a public hearing at which board members shall present the reasons for the discontinuation of services or the closure and the committee shall accept public comments on the discontinuation of services or the closure. At that public meeting the board shall present:

1. Financial and demographic data. The financial and demographic data for the regions served by the home, including, but not limited to, information regarding services necessary to meet the needs of eligible veterans and their families in the region;

2. Plan for care of veterans and families. The board’s plan for the care of veterans receiving care at the home and the family members of those veterans; and

3. Plan for use or disposition of home. The board’s plan for the use or disposition of facilities after the home is closed.

The joint standing committee of the Legislature having jurisdiction over veterans affairs may report out legislation to any regular or special session of the Legislature based on the information received at the meeting.’

SENATE AMENDMENT

1 Amend the amendment by relettering or renumbering any nonconsecutive Part letter or
2 section number to read consecutively.

3 **SUMMARY**

4 This amendment limits the notification by the Board of Trustees of the Maine Veterans'
5 Homes to instances of discontinuation of services at or the closure of a public home for
6 veterans. It shortens the time by which the joint standing committee having jurisdiction
7 over veterans affairs must hold a public hearing to 10 days following notice by the board
8 and removes the requirement that the board wait 90 days following adjournment of the
9 legislative session to which the report was submitted before taking action on the
10 discontinuation of services or closure of the home.

11 **SPONSORED BY:** _____

12 (Senator HICKMAN, C.)

13 **COUNTY: Kennebec**