

MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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FIRST REGULAR SESSION

ONE HUNDRED AND NINTH LEGISLATURE

Legislative Document

No. 296

H. P. 251

House of Representatives, February 2, 1979

Referred to the Committee on Legal Affairs. Sent up for concurrence and ordered printed.

EDWIN H. PERT, Clerk

Presented by Mr. Boudreau of Waterville.

STATE OF MAINE

IN THE YEAR OF OUR LORD NINETEEN HUNDRED
SEVENTY-NINE

AN ACT to Allow 17 Year Olds to Donate Blood without Parental Consent.

Be it enacted by the People of the State of Maine, as follows:

22 MRSA c. 1057 is enacted to read:

CHAPTER 1057

GENERAL PROVISIONS

RELATING TO CHILDREN

§ 3881. Blood donation

Any person of the age of 17 years or over may consent to donate blood in any voluntary and noncompensatory blood program without the necessity of obtaining parental permission or authorization. This consent shall be valid and binding as if the person had achieved his majority and shall not be subject to later disaffirmance because of minority.

STATEMENT OF FACT

This bill would permit minors 17 years of age and older to donate blood without first obtaining parental consent. Approximately 20 of the 50 states have enacted legislation permitting 17 year olds to donate blood to a volunteer blood program without parental consent. In Maine, allowing 17 year olds to donate may help relieve the drastic blood shortage.