

MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

The following document is provided by the
LAW AND LEGISLATIVE DIGITAL LIBRARY
at the Maine State Law and Legislative Reference Library
<http://legislature.maine.gov/lawlib>



Reproduced from scanned originals with text recognition applied
(searchable text may contain some errors and/or omissions)

1 (After Deadline)
2 SECOND REGULAR SESSION
3

4 ONE HUNDRED AND TENTH LEGISLATURE
5

6 **Legislative Document**

No. 2037

7
8 H. P. 2112 House of Representatives, February 26, 1982
Approved for introduction by a majority of the Legislative Council
pursuant to Joint Rule 27.

Referred to the Committee on Health and Institutional Services.
Sent up for concurrence and ordered printed.

9 EDWIN H. PERT, Clerk
Presented by Representative Foster of Ellsworth.

Cosponsors: Representative Randall of East Machias, Senator
Perkins of Hancock and Senator Brown of Washington.

10
11 STATE OF MAINE
12

13 IN THE YEAR OF OUR LORD
14 NINETEEN HUNDRED AND EIGHTY-TWO
15

16 **AN ACT to Require Installation of**
17 **Electrical Generators in Nursing Homes**
18 **for Emergency Use.**
19

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

21 22 MRSA §1825 is enacted to read:

22 §1825. Emergency electrical generators

23 1. Secondary system required. Any skilled nursing or
24 intermediate care facility licensed pursuant to this chapter
25 shall, except as provided in subsection 3, have a secondary
26 electrical system separate and distinct from the primary
27 electrical system capable of supplying a limited amount of
28 lighting and power services which are considered essential
29 for the protection of life, safety and effective operation
30 of the institution during the time normal electrical service
31 is interrupted for any reason.

1 quired by this section and the response time required of
2 those systems in the event of interruption of normal ser-
3 vice. The commissioner shall also promulgate rules specify-
4 ing the date by which facilities which are in operation on
5 the effective date of this section must install secondary
6 systems and have them operational; except that all such
7 facilities shall have secondary systems installed no later
8 than 2 years after the effective date of this section.

9 STATEMENT OF FACT

10 There are 137 nursing homes in Maine which are not
11 attached to a hospital. Of that total, only 66 have elec-
12 trical generators which can supply electricity and heat to
13 the home in an emergency situation.

14 Because many residents of nursing homes are bedridden
15 and would suffer in any emergency electrical outage, this
16 bill requires that all nursing homes in Maine install
17 secondary electrical systems that will supply electricity
18 and heat to the homes in an emergency situation. Excepted
19 are those nursing homes which have 10 or fewer beds and
20 those nursing homes which have in effect a disaster plan
21 approved by the Commissioner of Human Services providing for
22 the temporary relocation or housing or for such other alter-
23 native measures.

24 This bill also allows the Commissioner of Human Ser-
25 vices to promulgate rules concerning response time for the
26 emergency systems and concerning the transition time which
27 existing facilities will have to install the emergency sys-
28 tems.

29 4815020582