

# MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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# 118th MAINE LEGISLATURE

## FIRST REGULAR SESSION-1997

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Legislative Document

No. 1063

S.P. 325

In Senate, February 18, 1997

**An Act Allowing Registered Nurses Employed by Licensed Home Health Care Agencies to Possess and Administer Certain Noncontrolled Prescription Drugs under Certain Conditions.**

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Reference to the Committee on Health and Human Services suggested and ordered printed.

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Joy J. O'Brien".

JOY J. O'BRIEN  
Secretary of the Senate

Presented by Senator PENDLETON of Cumberland.  
Cosponsored by Representative COLWELL of Gardiner and  
Senators: AMERO of Cumberland, LAWRENCE of York, Representatives: BRUNO of  
Raymond, DONNELLY of Presque Isle, FULLER of Manchester, WINGLASS of Auburn.

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

4 Sec. 1. 32 MRSA c. 31, sub-c. VII is enacted to read:

6 **SUBCHAPTER VII**

8 **NONCONTROLLED PRESCRIPTION DRUG  
ADMINISTRATION**

10 **§2266. Drug administration by nurses under certain conditions**

12 A professional nurse or an advanced practice registered  
14 nurse who is an employee of a home health care provider, as  
16 defined in Title 22, section 2142, subsection 3, or a hospice  
program or hospice provider, as defined in Title 22, section  
8621, subsection 10, may:

18 1. Possession. Possess, in the course of employment, such  
20 noncontrolled prescription drugs as are approved by the board and  
22 agreed upon jointly by the Board of Licensure in Medicine, as  
24 established in Title 5, section 12004-A, subsection 24, the Board  
of Osteopathic Licensure, as established by Title 5, section  
12004-A, subsection 29 and the Board of Commissioners of the  
Profession of Pharmacy, as established by Title 5, section  
12004-A, subsection 30; and

26 2. Administration. Administer, in the course of  
28 employment, such drugs as are approved under subsection 1  
30 according to written protocols approved annually by the  
employer's professional advisory committee, which must include a  
doctor licensed under chapter 36 or chapter 48.

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34 **SUMMARY**

36 This bill allows professional or registered nurses and  
38 advanced practice registered nurses employed by licensed home  
40 health care or hospice agencies to, in the course of employment,  
possess and administer certain preapproved noncontrolled  
prescription drugs according to written protocols developed by  
their employers through their medical advisory committees.