

MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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123rd MAINE LEGISLATURE

FIRST REGULAR SESSION-2007

Legislative Document

No. 973

H.P. 733

House of Representatives, March 2, 2007

An Act To Require the Maine Center for Disease Control and Prevention To Publish Abortion Statistics

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

Millicent M. MacFarland
MILLICENT M. MacFARLAND
Clerk

Presented by Representative NASS of Acton.
Cosponsored by Senator SHERMAN of Aroostook and
Representatives: AUSTIN of Gray, CEBRA of Naples, CROSTHWAITE of Ellsworth,
HAMPER of Oxford, McKANE of Newcastle, Senator: COURTNEY of York.

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

2 **Sec. 1. 22 MRSA §2706, sub-§2** is amended to read:

3 **2. Statistical research.** The state registrar may permit the use of data contained in
4 vital records for purposes of statistical research. Such data ~~shall~~ may not be used in a
5 manner ~~which~~ that will identify any individual.

6 A. The Maine Center for Disease Control and Prevention shall republish on its
7 website all of the State's annual abortion vital statistics that were previously
8 published on the department's website and that covered all years through 1999. The
9 abortion vital statistics must be in the same format that was previously published,
10 including a breakdown of abortion procedures by the number of weeks of gestation
11 beginning with less than 9 weeks and ending with 20 or more weeks.

12 B. The Maine Center for Disease Control and Prevention shall update the annual
13 abortion vital statistics on its website to include the years 2000 to 2004. The abortion
14 vital statistics published under this paragraph must be the same abortion vital
15 statistics that were provided to the national Centers for Disease Control and
16 Prevention for those years pursuant to subsection 3 and that the national Centers for
17 Disease Control and Prevention published as this State's abortion vital statistics for
18 those years.

19 C. The Maine Center for Disease Control and Prevention shall continue to maintain
20 and publish on an annual basis the abortion vital statistics in the format described in
21 paragraphs A and D and shall publish the abortion vital statistics on its website within
22 12 months following the year reported.

23 D. The Maine Center for Disease Control and Prevention shall continue to publish
24 annually on its website all abortion vital statistics as previously published, including a
25 breakdown of abortion procedures by weeks of gestation and by procedure. The
26 breakdown must include a separate category for each type of procedure reported and
27 the total number of each procedure as reported by the number of weeks of gestation.

28 All procedures, including suction curettage and dilation and evacuation must be reported
29 and categorized separately.

30 The term "gestation" must be categorized in the same manner as it is categorized for
31 purposes of the State's abortion reporting form.

32 **SUMMARY**

33 This bill requires the Maine Center for Disease Control and Prevention to republish,
34 update and maintain the State's annual abortion vital statistics and make the vital
35 statistics available on its website. The report must include information on the categories
36 of abortion performed and the number of weeks of gestation.