

MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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127th MAINE LEGISLATURE

FIRST REGULAR SESSION-2015

Legislative Document

No. 483

H.P. 322

House of Representatives, February 24, 2015

An Act Regarding the Reporting Standards for Child Abuse

Reference to the Committee on Judiciary suggested and ordered printed.

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "R B. Hunt".

ROBERT B. HUNT
Clerk

Presented by Representative BATES of Westbrook.
Cosponsored by Senator KATZ of Kennebec and
Representatives: GIDEON of Freeport, HAMANN of South Portland, SANBORN of Gorham,
SCHNECK of Bangor, STUCKEY of Portland, WARD of Dedham, WHITE of Washburn,
Senator: BRAKEY of Androscoggin.

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

2 **Sec. 1. 22 MRSA §4011-A, sub-§7,** as enacted by PL 2013, c. 268, §1, is
3 amended to read:

4 **7. Children under 6 months of age or otherwise nonambulatory.** A person
5 required to make a report under subsection 1 shall report to the department if a child who
6 is under 6 months of age or otherwise nonambulatory exhibits evidence of the following:

7 A. Fracture of a bone;

8 B. Substantial bruising or multiple bruises;

9 C. Subdural hematoma;

10 D. Burns;

11 E. Poisoning; or

12 F. Injury resulting in substantial bleeding, soft tissue swelling or impairment of an
13 organ.

14 This subsection does not require the reporting of injuries occurring as a result of the
15 delivery of a child attended by a licensed medical practitioner.

16 **SUMMARY**

17 The bill creates an exception to the law mandating a report to the Department of
18 Health and Human Services of suspected abuse or neglect of a child under 6 months of
19 age for injuries occurring during birth when the delivery is attended by a licensed medical
20 practitioner.