

MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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132nd MAINE LEGISLATURE

FIRST REGULAR SESSION-2025

Legislative Document

No. 613

H.P. 381

House of Representatives, February 25, 2025

**An Act to Amend the Maine Death with Dignity Act to Ensure
Access by Qualified Patients**

Received by the Clerk of the House on February 20, 2025. Referred to the Committee on Health and Human Services pursuant to Joint Rule 308.2 and ordered printed pursuant to Joint Rule 401.

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "R B. Hunt".

ROBERT B. HUNT
Clerk

Presented by Representative MEYER of Eliot.
Cosponsored by Senator MOORE of Washington and
Representatives: KUHN of Falmouth, MATHIESON of Kittery, STOVER of Boothbay,
ZAGER of Portland, Senators: BAILEY of York, CARNEY of Cumberland, President
DAUGHTRY of Cumberland, INGWERSEN of York.

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

2 **Sec. 1. 22 MRSA §2140, sub-§13**, as enacted by PL 2019, c. 271, §4, is amended
3 by enacting at the end a new first blocked paragraph to read:

4 The attending physician may waive any portion or all of the waiting periods if, in the
5 attending physician's medical opinion, it is in the best interests of the qualified patient,
6 given the qualified patient's condition.

7 **Sec. 2. 22 MRSA §2140, sub-§14, ¶F**, as enacted by PL 2019, c. 271, §4, is
8 amended to read:

9 F. The attending physician's offer to the patient to rescind the patient's request at the
10 time of the patient's 2nd oral request under subsection 11; ~~and~~

11 **Sec. 3. 22 MRSA §2140, sub-§14, ¶G**, as enacted by PL 2019, c. 271, §4, is
12 amended to read:

13 G. A note by the attending physician indicating that all requirements under this Act
14 have been met, including the requirements of subsection 6, and indicating the steps
15 taken to carry out the patient's request, including a notation of the medication
16 prescribed; and

17 **Sec. 4. 22 MRSA §2140, sub-§14, ¶H** is enacted to read:

18 H. When a portion or all of a waiting period under this section has been waived
19 pursuant to subsection 13, a note by the attending physician that, in the attending
20 physician's medical opinion, it is in the best interests of the qualified patient to waive
21 a portion or all of the waiting period, given the qualified patient's condition, and what
22 portion of the waiting period has been waived.

23 **SUMMARY**

24 This bill allows an attending physician to waive a portion or all of a waiting period for
25 qualified patients to access end-of-life medication based on the qualified patient's condition
26 and the attending physician's medical opinion regarding the best interests of the qualified
27 patient.