

# MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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NEW DRAFT

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SEVENTY-NINTH LEGISLATURE

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HOUSE

NO. 191

House of Representatives, Feb. 19, 1919.

Reported by Mr. Williams of Auburn from Committee on Public Health and ordered printed under joint rules.

CLYDE R. CHAPMAN, Clerk.

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STATE OF MAINE

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IN THE YEAR OF OUR LORD ONE THOUSAND  
NINE HUNDRED AND NINETEEN

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AN ACT Relative to the Marriage of Persons Having Syphilis.

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

Section 1. No person having syphilis shall marry until  
2 he has a certificate from the attending physician or phy-  
3 sicians that he is cured of syphilis. The State Board of  
4 Health is hereby empowered to make regulations prescrib-  
5 ing the methods to be employed in diagnosing said dis-  
6 ease.

Sect. 2. Every physician shall keep a record of all cases  
2 of syphilis that come under his observation and care, and  
3 shall use reasonable means to ascertain the intentions of  
4 syphilitic patients as to marriage. The physician shall warn  
5 said patients of the legal, moral and physical evils of mar-

6 riage contracted by them. If the physician learns that a  
7 patient as aforesaid has filed intentions of marriage as re-  
8 quired by law, or if the physician believes that the patient  
9 as aforesaid intends to marry, the physician shall notify the  
10 Local Board of Health or the health officer in the town or  
11 city in which the patient resides, who are hereby empowered  
12 to notify the other party to the intended marriage.

Sect. 3. Any person failing to comply with the provisions  
2 of sections 1 and 2 and any physician making a certificate  
3 as aforesaid falsely shall be punished by imprisonment for  
4 not less than three months nor more than one year or by  
5 fine of not more than five hundred dollars or less than two  
6 hundred dollars or both. Municipal and police courts and  
7 trial justices shall have jurisdiction of the above concur-  
8 rently with Superior and Supreme Judicial courts.