

MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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N I N E T Y - F I R S T L E G I S L A T U R E

Legislative Document

No. 340

S. P. 221

In Senate, February 4, 1943.

Referred to Committee on Legal Affairs, sent down for concurrence and ordered printed.

ROYDEN V. BROWN, Secretary.

Presented by Senator Sanborn of Cumberland.

STATE OF MAINE

IN THE YEAR OF OUR LORD NINETEEN HUNDRED
FORTY-THREE

**AN ACT Amending the Charter of the Associated Hospital Service of
Maine.**

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

Sec. 1. P. & S. L., 1939, c. 24, amended. Chapter 24 of the private and special laws of 1939 is hereby amended by adding thereto a new section to be numbered 3-A and to read as follows:

'Sec. 3-A. Further purposes. The corporation may establish, maintain, and operate a non-profit medical service plan, whereby medical or surgical service or expense indemnity is provided to such persons or groups of persons as shall become subscribers to such plan under contracts with this corporation, either in the capacity of principal or agent of other non-profit medical service corporations, or insurance companies, of equal or better financial responsibility.'

Sec. 2. P. & S. L., 1939, c. 24, § 5, amended. The 2nd paragraph of section 5 of chapter 24 of the private and special laws of 1939 is hereby amended to read as follows:

'This corporation may enter into contracts for the rendering of hospital service to the subscribers only with hospitals approved by the state department of welfare of the several states. All contracts **for hospital service**

issued by this corporation to the subscribers shall constitute direct obligations of the hospital or hospitals with which this corporation has contracted for hospital care.'

Sec. 3. P. & S. L., 1939, c. 24, amended. Chapter 24 of the private and special laws of 1939 is hereby amended by adding thereto a new section to be numbered 5-A and to read as follows:

'Sec. 5-A. Choice of physician; provision for medical service. The private physician-patient relationship shall be maintained under all medical service contracts and the subscriber at all times shall have free choice of a physician. The provision for medical service, or medical expense indemnity, shall be based upon definite agreements covering medical or surgical care provided through duly licensed physicians in their offices, in hospitals, and in the home, without discrimination against schools of practice of the healing arts, and for nursing service and necessary appliances, drugs, medicines, and supplies. Medical services shall not be construed to include hospital services.'

Sec. 4. P. & S. L., 1939, c. 24, amended. Chapter 24 of the private and special laws of 1939 is hereby amended by adding thereto a new section to be numbered 13-A and to read as follows:

'Sec. 13-A. Limitation of actions. No action at law or equity based upon or arising out of a physician-patient relationship shall be maintained against this corporation.'