

MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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1182

AN ACT TO ESTABLISH INMATE
REPRESENTATION

Rep. Connolly

LV/WD

HSE-ACCPY LV/WD

SEN-ACCPY LV/WD

SUMMARY: This bill would have required the wardens of the state correctional facilities to inform inmates of their right to establish inmates' councils. The purpose of the council would be to inform inmates about their rights, to focus inmate discussions, to inform and make recommendations to the warden, and to serve as liaison between inmates and their families. The records of meetings would be kept in the facility, available to inmates and families. The councils would only be suspended by the Governor, in the case of a security emergency; they would be restored as soon as possible.

The Department of Corrections considered that they already had the power to establish inmate organizations, and therefore felt the bill was unnecessary.

It was withdrawn as part of an agreement among the Committee, the sponsors and the Department to evaluate the need for such a statutory requirement.

1183

AN ACT TO ESTABLISH THE
MEDICAL RADIATION HEALTH
AND SAFETY ACT

Rep. Manning

OTP-A

HSE-ENACT.

SEN-ENACT.

GOV-SIGNED

PL 83, c. 524

SUMMARY: The bill provided for the licensing of radiographers, nuclear medicine technologists and radiation therapy technologists and established the qualifications for licensure in each case, and established a Radiologic Technology Board to administer licensing within statutory provisions for maximum fees, temporary licensure, exemptions from licensure and penalties.

There was considerable discussion about: including chiropractors and their assistants and podiatrists within the scope of the bill; whether to grandfather people; a limitation on the number of times an applicant could take the licensure exam; the composition of the Board; and questions of equipment safety, operator training, and the supply and compensation of trained operators.

The Committee Amendment (H-389) clarified some definitions, including chiropractors and podiatrists within the meaning of "licensed practitioner," increased the number of Board members from 10 to 12, allowed the Governor to choose, rather than having to appoint, members from lists submitted by professional organizations, and added to the Board's duties a requirement to develop requirements for limited licensure and to submit a report on these requirements by April, 1984.

The Committee Amendment also modified the courses required as part of the licensure requirements and specified that a licensee could either pass the Board's examination, or have current national certification in their field.