

# MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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Department spokespersons indicated they did not feel the legislation was necessary, and that most foster parents seemed satisfied in their dealings with them. However, in response to specific comments from the sponsor, who had introduced the bill because of a particular incident, they agreed to review policies with respect to foster parents and foster children, and the Department's liaison with foster parents.

1391 AN ACT TO REQUIRE HOSPITALS TO PROVIDE ITEMIZED BILLS UPON REQUEST Sen. Najarian HSE-ENACT.  
SEN-ENACT.  
GOV-SIGNED  
PL 83, c. 166

SUMMARY: The new draft of LD 549 required hospitals to inform patients or their guardians, in writing at the time of discharge, that they could request an itemized bill at any time up to 7 years from discharge, and the hospital would provide the bill within 30 days of the request.

The House Amendment (H-120) required that after July 1, 1985, the itemized bill should specify the costs of nursing services.

1412 AN ACT TO REQUIRE DISCHARGE PLANNING FOR MENTAL HEALTH PATIENTS Sen. Gill LV/WD  
HSE-ACCP LV/WD  
SEN-ACCP LV/WD

SUMMARY: The bill would have established a process to involve patients, their families and community providers in planning for a patient's discharge from the state mental health institutes. It would have established discharge planning teams, required written notice of actions involving the patient, and required follow-up by the mental health institute to see that the plan was being carried out.

This bill was withdrawn by the sponsor on the day of the hearing because of an agreement among the parties who had drafted the bill and the Department of Mental Health and Mental Retardation.

1420 AN ACT TO AMEND THE LAWS GOVERNING THE ADMINISTRATION OF MEDICATIONS IN GROUP HOME INTERMEDIATE CARE FACILITIES FOR THE MENTALLY RETARDED Sen. Bustin OTP  
HSE-ENACT.  
SEN-ENACT.  
GOV-SIGNED  
PL 83, c. 284

SUMMARY: The administration of medication in boarding care facilities, drug treatment centers, day care facilities, children's homes and nursery schools is already governed by rules of the Department of Human Services. This bill added group home intermediate-care facilities for the mentally retarded to that list.

In addition, unlicensed personnel may administer medication in ICF-MR facilities if those personnel have received training established by rule and approved by the Department of Human Services.