

MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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September 17, 1943

Roscoe L. Mitchell, M.D., Director

Bureau of Health

Frank I. Cowan

Attorney General

I have your memo of September 15th concerning changes in the statute in regard to nuisances.

While I agree with you entirely that our statute should be changed so that the Public Health Department can be free to protect the public health and abate dangerous conditions before anyone has actually suffered from them, inasmuch as this will be a change in State policy, I believe the legislature should act on it as a separate item, rather than as an obscure amendment in the report of the committee on revision of the statutes. The revision committee tries to avoid making changes in State policy. Its duty is to take the law as it finds ~~the law~~ in the various books and put them together in the way they believe the legislature intended, without changing the meaning. 4

The legislature will be in special session in January, I believe. I suggest that you have a bill prepared for presentation at the next session, so that the legislature can consider it.

Frank I. Cowan
Attorney General

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