

MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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ONE HUNDRED AND FIFTH LEGISLATURE

Legislative Document

No. 506

H. P. 391

House of Representatives, February 2, 1971

Referred to Committee on Health and Institutional Services. Sent up for concurrence and ordered printed.

BERTHA W. JOHNSON, Clerk

Presented by Mr. Gill of South Portland.

STATE OF MAINE

IN THE YEAR OF OUR LORD NINETEEN HUNDRED
SEVENTY-ONE

AN ACT Relating to the Rendering of Treatment and
Services to Minors for Drug Abuse Without Parental Consent.

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

Sec. 1. R. S., T. 32, § 2606, amended. Section 2606 of Title 32 of the Revised Statutes, as enacted by section 60-A of chapter 590 of the public laws of 1969, is amended to read as follows:

§ 2606. Treatment of minors

Any person licensed under this chapter who, in the exercise of due care, renders medical care to a minor for treatment of venereal disease or of problems associated with the abuse of drugs is under no obligation to obtain the consent of a parent or a guardian, as applicable, or to inform such parent or guardian of such treatment.

Sec. 2. R. S., T. 32, § 3154, amended. Section 3154 of Title 32 of the Revised Statutes, as enacted by section 62 of chapter 590 of the public laws of 1969, is amended to read as follows:

§ 3154. Treatment of minors

Any person licensed under this chapter who, in the exercise of due care, renders medical care to a minor for treatment of venereal disease or of problems associated with the abuse of drugs is under no obligation to obtain the consent of a parent or a guardian, as applicable, or to inform such parent or guardian of such treatment.

Sec. 3. R. S., T. 32, §§ 3817 and 4185-A, additional. Title 32 of the Revised Statutes is amended by adding 2 new sections to read as follows:

§ 3817. Services to minors for drug abuse

Any person licensed under this chapter who, in the exercise of due care, renders psychological services to a minor for problems associated with the abuse of drugs is under no obligation to obtain the consent of a parent or a guardian, as applicable, or to inform such parent or guardian of such services.

§ 4185-A. Services to minors for drug abuse

Any person certified under this chapter who, in the exercise of due care, renders social work services to a minor for problems associated with the abuse of drugs is under no obligation to obtain the consent of a parent or a guardian, as applicable, or to inform such parent or guardian of such services.

STATEMENT OF FACT

This Act which applies to the professions of medicine, osteopathy, psychology and social services provides that juveniles having problems with drug abuse may be cared for by any of these professions without prior parental consent or without information being given to the parents.

At times young persons having problems with drug abuse are reluctant to seek the professional help they need because of fear that their parents will learn of their drug abuse problem. In order to assure that they may receive the care they need, without this barrier to seeking it, this measure is presented.