MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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ONE HUNDRED AND FIFTH LEGISLATURE

Legislative Document

No. 758

S. P. 251 In Senate, February 11, 1971 Referred to Committee on Judiciary. Sent down for concurrence and ordered printed.

HARRY N. STARBRANCH, Secretary

Presented by Senator Clifford of Androscoggin.

STATE OF MAINE

IN THE YEAR OF OUR LORD NINETEEN HUNDRED SEVENTY-ONE

AN ACT Relating to Oral Settlements or Releases from Injured Persons Confined to Hospitals.

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

R. S., T. 17, § 3964, amended. The first sentence of section 3964 of Title 17 of the Revised Statutes is amended to read as follows:

Except as provided in this section, no settlement or general release or statement either oral or in writing signed made by any person confined in a hospital or sanitarium as a patient with reference to any personal injuries for which said person is confined in said hospital or sanitarium shall be admissible in evidence, used or referred to in any manner at the trial of any action to recover damages for personal injuries or consequential damages, so called, resulting therefrom, which statement, settlement or general release was obtained within 10 days after the injuries were sustained and such settlement or release shall be null and void.

STATEMENT OF FACT

The purpose of this bill is to exclude from court testimony oral statements as well as written statements by persons confined to a hospital within 10 days after a personal injury.