

MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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ONE HUNDRED AND FIFTH LEGISLATURE

Legislative Document

No. 1398

H. P. 1019

House of Representatives, March 9, 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 So. Portland.

STATE OF MAINE

IN THE YEAR OF OUR LORD NINETEEN HUNDRED
SEVENTY-ONE

AN ACT Relating to Use of Hypodermic Syringes.

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

R. S., T. 22, §§ 2362-A and 2362-B, additional. Title 22 of the Revised Statutes is amended by adding 2 new sections to read as follows:

§ 2362-A. Hypodermic syringes

No person not being a dentist, funeral director, physician, podiatrist, nurse or veterinarian, registered or licensed under the laws of this State or of the state where he resides or a manufacturer or dealer in embalming supplies, wholesale druggist, manufacturing pharmacist, pharmacist, manufacturer of surgical instruments, official of any government having possession of the articles mentioned in this section by reason of his official duties, employee of an incorporated hospital acting under official direction, or a carrier or messenger engaged in the transportation of such articles as an agent of the above-mentioned persons or a person who has received a written prescription issued under section 2362-B shall have in his possession a hypodermic syringe, hypodermic needle or any instrument adapted for the use of narcotic drugs by subcutaneous injection. No such syringe, needle or instrument shall be delivered, sold to, or exchanged with, any person except the persons specified in this section.

A person selling such syringe, needle or instrument shall keep such records as the Maine Board of Commissioners of the Profession of Pharmacy, by regulation, shall prescribe. Whoever violates any provision of this section or any such regulation shall be punished by a fine of not more than \$100 or by imprisonment for not more than 2 years, or by both.

§ 2362-B. Prescriptions

A licensed physician, dentist, podiatrist or osteopathic physician may issue to a patient under his immediate charge a written prescription to purchase any of the instruments specified in section 2362-A. The Maine Board of Commissioners of the Profession of Pharmacy shall, by regulation, prescribe the form of prescription that the physician shall use and the records and information that shall be kept by the physician and by the pharmacist filling such prescription.

STATEMENT OF FACT

This bill will regulate the sale of hypodermic syringes and needles. This problem of casual sale is becoming extremely harmful and is a further stimulant to the drug abuse traffic.