MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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ONE HUNDRED AND SEVENTH LEGISLATURE

Legislative Document

No. 202

H. P. 161 House of Representatives, January 15, 1975 Referred to Committee on Human Resources. Sent up for concurrence and ordered printed.

EDWIN H. PERT, Clerk

Presented by Mrs. Kelley of Machias.

STATE OF MAINE

IN THE YEAR OF OUR LORD NINETEEN HUNDRED SEVENTY-FIVE

AN ACT Establishing the Civil Rights of Hemophiliacs.

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

5 MRSA, c. 337, sub-c. IX is enacted to read:

SUBCHAPTER IX

CIVIL RIGHTS OF HEMOPHILIACS

§ 4701. Definition of hemophilia

For the purposes of this subchapter, hemophilia means a bleeding tendency resulting from a congenitally determined deficiency in a clotting factor in the blood.

§ 4702. Denial of rights of hemophiliacs prohibited

No hemophiliac shall be denied any of the following rights because of his or her hemophilia:

- I. Hospital treatment. The right of treatment at any accredited hospital without a financial stipulation.
- 2. Materials for home infusion. The right to transport or possess materials for home infusion. This right shall also be available to any person authorized by a physician to transport or possess materials for transfusion.
- 3. Activities in Maine school system. The right to have the opportunity to participate in any educational or physical activities in the Maine school system, except for those activities which the hemophiliac's physician has determined in writing are unnecessarily hazardous for him or her.

- 4. Admission to Maine accredited educational institutions. The right to be admitted to any Maine accredited educational institution of his or her choice if he or she has been classified in writing as a hemophiliac by his or her doctor.
- 5. State rehabilitation services. The right to state rehabilitation services, regardless of the amount of time since his or her last bleeding episode and regardless of his or her status or the status of his or her family.
 - 6. Employment. The right of employment.
- 7. State licenses. The right to a state license to operate a vehicle or conduct a business.
- § 4703. Enforcement by the commission. The Human Rights Commission shall enforce this subchapter in accordance with its powers under section 4566.
- § 4704. Civil action

Any person aggrieved under this subchapter may bring a civil action under subchapter VII. Denial of any of the rights listed under section 4702 is unlawful discrimination.

STATEMENT OF FACT

The purpose of this bill is to guarantee the inherent civil rights of the hemophiliac. The enforcement of this bill will be under the direction of the Human Rights Commission.