

MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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ONE HUNDRED AND SEVENTH LEGISLATURE

Legislative Document

No. 453

H. P. 362 House of Representatives, January 29, 1975
Referred to the Committee on Health and Institutional Services. Sent up
for concurrence and ordered printed.

EDWIN H. PERT, Clerk

Presented by Mr. Talbot of Portland.

STATE OF MAINE

IN THE YEAR OF OUR LORD NINETEEN HUNDRED
SEVENTY-FIVE

AN ACT to Require Proficiency Testing of Services Provided by Hospital Laboratories.

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

22 MRSA, § 1820, is amended by adding at the end a new paragraph to read:

The department shall conduct a program of external quality control for the testing services provided by hospital laboratories through the submission of proficiency testing specimens to the laboratories. Specifications for acceptable levels of test performance on these specimens shall be placed in the departmental regulations for the licensure of general and speciality hospitals.

STATEMENT OF FACT

At the present time, the State has no means of determining the quality of results received by physicians on patient specimens analyzed by hospital laboratories, yet these results have a direct and potent effect on the quality of medical care. Proficiency testing will enable the department to establish the quality of hospital laboratory testing results.