

MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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ONE HUNDRED AND EIGHTH LEGISLATURE

Legislative Document

No. 228

S. P. 99

In Senate, February 3, 1977

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

MAY M. ROSS, Secretary

Presented by Senator Snowe of Androscoggin.

STATE OF MAINE

IN THE YEAR OF OUR LORD NINETEEN HUNDRED
SEVENTY-SEVEN

**AN ACT to Amend the Laws Relating to the Reporting of Child Abuse or
Child Neglect.**

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

22 MRSA § 3853, first sentence, as repealed and replaced by PL 1976, c. 167, § 1, is repealed and the following enacted in its place:

When any medical physician, resident, intern, medical examiner, dentist, osteopathic physician, chiropractor, podiatrist, registered or licensed practical nurse, Christian Science practitioner, teacher, school official, social worker, psychologist, child care personnel, mental health professional, law enforcement official, homemaker or home health aide, medical or social service worker for families and children, knows or has reasonable cause to suspect that a child has been subjected to abuse or neglect or observes the child being subjected to conditions or circumstances which would reasonably result in abuse, when such individual is acting in his professional capacity, he shall immediately report or cause a report to be made to the department.

STATEMENT OF FACT

This bill would more clearly and properly identify the 2 types of physicians and would also include 2 additional significant groups of professionals coming into frequent contact with families and children.