

MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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ONE HUNDRED AND EIGHTH LEGISLATURE

Legislative Document

No. 1198

H. P. 987

House of Representatives, March 23, 1977

Referred to the Committee on Judiciary. Sent up for concurrence and ordered printed.

EDWIN H. PERT, Clerk

Presented by Mrs. Berube of Lewiston.

STATE OF MAINE

IN THE YEAR OF OUR LORD NINETEEN HUNDRED
SEVENTY-SEVEN

**AN ACT Relating to Reporting of Data of Abortions Performed by an
Attending Physician.**

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

Sec. 1. 22 MRSA § 1577 is enacted to read:

§ 1577. Abortion data

A report of each abortion performed shall be made to the Department of Human Services on forms prescribed by it. Such report forms shall not identify the patient by name, but shall include, but not be limited to, information concerning:

- A. Weight in grams of the fetus aborted;
- B. Measurements in centimeters of the fetus aborted, crown to rump, sitting height;
- C. Medical procedure used to abort;
- D. Given menstrual age of fetus; and
- E. Complications.

The form containing such information and data shall be prepared by the attending physician, signed by him and transmitted to the department, not later than 10 days following the end of the month in which the abortion is performed.

Sec. 2. 22 MRSA § 1578 is enacted to read:

§ 1578. Abortion defined

For the purposes of section 1577, the reference to the word "abortion" shall mean the interruption of the pregnancy of a female by the application of external agents, whether chemical or physical.

STATEMENT OF FACT

The purpose of this bill is to require that a report of each abortion performed be made to the Department of Human Services. The report will not identify the parents by name but will give certain statistics concerning the aborted fetus.

This bill also includes a definition of "abortion" to assist in the accurate application of the reporting provisions.