

MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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ONE HUNDRED AND EIGHTH LEGISLATURE

Legislative Document

No. 1253

S. P. 377

In Senate, March 30, 1977

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

MAY M. ROSS, Secretary

Presented by Senator Hichens of York.

STATE OF MAINE

IN THE YEAR OF OUR LORD NINETEEN HUNDRED
SEVENTY-SEVEN

**AN ACT to Prohibit the Use of State Funds for Abortions, Except to
Save the Mother's Life.**

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

22 MRSA § 14 is enacted to read:

§ 14. Use of state funds for abortions prohibited

1. Abortion defined. For the purposes of this section, the word "abortion" means the termination of human pregnancy by any procedure with an intention other than to produce a live birth or to remove a dead fetus.

2. Use of funds prohibited. No state funds shall be appropriated or used:

A. To procure an abortion for any individual; or

B. To refer any individual to a physician, hospital or other individual, agency or group providing abortion services.

3. Exception. If, in the opinion of a licensed allopathic or osteopathic physician, the life of the individual seeking an abortion or abortion services is in danger, state funds may be used for the purposes described in subsection 2.

4. Violation; penalty. Any violation of this section shall be punishable by a fine of not less than \$1,000 or by imprisonment for not less than one year, or by both.

STATEMENT OF FACT

The purpose of this bill is to prohibit the use of state funds for both abortions and for abortion referral services. The provisions of this bill do not apply if, in the opinion of a physician, an abortion is necessary to save a woman's life.