

# MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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FIRST REGULAR SESSION

ONE HUNDRED AND NINTH LEGISLATURE

Legislative Document

No. 540

H. P. 377

House of Representatives, February 14, 1979

Speaker laid before the House and on Motion of Mr. Wyman of Pittsfield, referred to the Committee on Judiciary. Sent up for concurrence and ordered printed.

EDWIN H. PERT, Clerk

Presented by Mr. Hobbins of Saco.

STATE OF MAINE

IN THE YEAR OF OUR LORD NINETEEN HUNDRED  
SEVENTY-NINE

**AN ACT to Permit Signed Statements of Psychologists and Chiropractors to be Admitted into Evidence Before the Workers' Compensation Board.**

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

39 MRSA § 93, sub-§ 3, last ¶, as last amended by PL 1977, c. 696, § 406, is repealed and the following enacted in its place:

**Signed statements by a medical doctor or osteopathic physician relating to medical questions, by a psychologist relating to psychological questions or by a chiropractor relating to chiropractic questions, shall be admissible in workers' compensation hearings before the Workers' Compensation Commission, providing that notice of that testimony to be used is given and service of a copy of the letter or report is made on the opposing counsel 14 days before the scheduled hearing to enable that counsel to depose or subpoena and cross-examine that medical doctor, osteopathic physician, psychologist or chiropractor if he so chooses.**

STATEMENT OF FACT

This bill permits signed statements by a psychologist relating to psychological questions or by a chiropractor relating to chiropractic questions to be introduced into evidence before the Workers' Compensation Commission. At present,

statements by medical doctors, including psychiatrists, and osteopaths may be introduced. This bill recognizes that Maine, by licensing psychologists and chiropractors, recognizes them as legitimate members of the health professions, whose testimony in their field of expertise is entitled to be admitted into evidence in a workers' compensation hearing.