

MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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STATE OF MAINE
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES (Filing No. H-592)
109TH LEGISLATURE
FIRST REGULAR SESSION

HOUSE AMENDMENT "A" to H.P. 1018, L.D. 1251, Bill, "AN ACT to Amend the Law Relating to the State Board of Social Worker Registration."

Amend the bill by inserting at the end before the period the following:

', provided that any person employed as a social services designee in a nursing home shall be registered as a certified social worker, registered social worker or associate social worker, as provided in this chapter, no later than July 1, 1982. Employment for at least 20 hours a week for a minimum of 4 years as the social services designee in a nursing home shall be considered as meeting the experience or educational requirements for admission to the examination for licensure as an associate social worker.'

Statement of Fact

Public Law 1977, c. 673, created a State Board of Social Worker Registration and required persons who hold themselves out to the general public as possessing the skills of social workers to register with the board. The chapter contained exemptions for governmental employees and for the employees of hospitals. However, the chapter neglected to provide a similar exemption for the employees of nursing homes. Like the employees of hospitals, social workers in nursing homes do not solicit business from the general public and are employed by

nursing homes pursuant to requirements of state and federal regulations.

Unlike the standards for hospitals and governmental employees, the standards for nursing homes simply require that there be "a designated staff member suited by training or experience..responsible for arranging for social services and for integration of social services with other elements of the plan of care."

This legislation would exempt nursing homes from the requirement for consultation from a certified social worker (MSW), and would permit a period of time for persons employed as social workers in nursing homes to become licensed on the basis of experience and a written examination.