

MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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L.D. 196

STATE OF MAINE
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES (Filing No. H-53)
110TH LEGISLATURE
FIRST REGULAR SESSION

COMMITTEE AMENDMENT " A " to H.P. 176, L.D. 196, Bill,
"AN ACT to Revise the Maine Medical Laboratory Act."

Amend the bill by inserting after the enacting clause
the following:

'Sec. 1. 22 MRSA §2012, first sentence, as repealed
and replaced by PL 1975, c. 218, is amended to read:

The proper operation of medical laboratories within
the State ~~of Maine~~ is a matter of vital concern, since they
provide essential health services by aiding ~~other~~ medical
practitioners in the diagnosis and treatment of disease.'

Further amend the bill by striking out all of section
3 and inserting in its place the following:

'Sec. 3. 22 MRSA §2029, sub-§3 is enacted to read:

3. Qualified persons other than physicians. He has an
earned doctorate degree in a chemical, physical or biological
science from an accredited institution and either is cer-
tified in at least one laboratory specialty by the American
Board of Clinical Chemistry, American Board of Medical
Microbiology or other national accrediting board acceptable
to the department and the commission. Medical laboratories
directed by persons qualified under this subsection shall
only perform those examinations within the scientific area

in which members of the staff are trained and certified.'

Further amend the bill by renumbering sections 1 to 3 to be sections 2 to 4.

Statement of Fact

The word "other" is removed as a modifier of "medical practitioners," since not all lab directors need now be physicians.

The amendment brings section 3 of the bill into conformity Title 22, Section 2029, with/subsections 1 and 2 of the existing law by noting that the qualifications of the director should be acceptable to the commission as well as to the department. It also allows labs directed by nonphysicians to perform examinations in areas for which members of the staff are trained and certified. However, the current requirement that only labs headed by directors who are certified in pathology do examinations in the area of pathological anatomy remains.

Reported by the Committee on Health and Institutional Services
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