

# MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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1 FIRST REGULAR SESSION  
2

3 ONE HUNDRED AND TWELFTH LEGISLATURE  
4

5 Legislative Document

No. 1376

6  
7 H.P. 956

House of Representatives, April 24, 1985

8 Reference to the Committee on Human Resources suggested and ordered  
9 printed.

10 EDWIN H. PERT, Clerk

Presented by Representative Reeves of Pittston.

11 Cosponsored by Representative Rioux of Biddeford and Representative  
Rolde of York.

12 STATE OF MAINE  
13

14 IN THE YEAR OF OUR LORD  
15 NINETEEN HUNDRED AND EIGHTY-FIVE  
16

17 AN ACT Establishing a System for the  
18 Reporting of Selected Neurological  
19 Disorders.  
20

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

23 22 MRSA §§1030-A and 1030-B are enacted to read:

24 §1030-A. Neurological disorders reporting system

25 The department shall establish, maintain and op-  
26 erate a statewide reporting system for Alzheimer's  
27 Disease, multiple sclerosis and Parkinson's Syndrome.

28 The department shall maintain the reporting sys-  
29 tem to assist in promoting the general health and  
30 welfare of Maine's citizens, including, but not lim-  
31 ited to, the following specific purposes:

32 1. Incidence. To ascertain the incidence of  
33 these disorders in this State and their magnituae and

1 alert physicians to the magnitude of the problem in  
2 this State;

3 2. Characteristic to this State. To ascertain  
4 any data which is characteristic to this State relat-  
5 ing to these disorders;

6 3. Education. To provide educational material  
7 to the medical community relating to the nature and  
8 treatment of these disorders; and

9 4. Network. To provide a means for individuals  
10 who are suffering from these disorders to contact  
11 each other.

12 §1030-B. Duty of physicians and hospitals

13 All hospitals shall report to the department all  
14 persons diagnosed as having Alzheimer's Disease, mul-  
15 tiplc sclerotic and Parkinson's Syndrome no later  
16 than 30 days from the date of diagnosis or from dis-  
17 charge from a hospital.

18 A physician, upon notification by the department,  
19 shall report to the department any further informa-  
20 tion requested by the department concerning any per-  
21 son now or formerly under his care diagnosed as hav-  
22 ing or having had one of these neurological disor-  
23 ders.

24 No physician or hospital complying with the re-  
25 porting requirements of this section may be liable  
26 for any civil damages as a result of those acts.

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STATEMENT OF FACT

2           This bill establishes a statewide reporting sys-  
3 tem for Alzheimer's Disease, multiple sclerosis and  
4 Parkinson's Syndrome. This reporting system will  
5 provide data on how serious a problem these disorders  
6 are in this State and will allow the Department of  
7 Human Services to gather statistical data to ascer-  
8 tain factors unique to this State, if any, which may  
9 contribute to the occurrence of these disorders.

10           Many in the health community are unaware of how  
11 to deal with these neurological disorders. This bill  
12 requires the department to disseminate information  
13 regarding treatment of these disorders to the health  
14 community.

15           This bill will also maintain a list of individu-  
16 als suffering from these disorders to facilitate  
17 their efforts to contact others and to participate in  
18 support groups which they might otherwise be unaware  
19 of.

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