

MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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FIRST REGULAR SESSION

ONE HUNDRED AND THIRTEENTH LEGISLATURE

Legislative Document

NO. 1463

H.P. 1076 House of Representatives, May 8, 1987
Submitted by the Department of Human Services pursuant to
Joint Rule 24.

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

EDWIN H. PERT, Clerk
Presented by Representative PINES of Limestone.

Cosponsored by Representatives FOSS of Yarmouth, McGOWAN
of Canaan, and Senator EMERSON of Penobscot.

STATE OF MAINE

IN THE YEAR OF OUR LORD
NINETEEN HUNDRED AND EIGHTY-SEVEN

1 AN ACT to Assure the Reporting of
2 Communicable Diseases by Hospitals to
3 Emergency Medical Services Personnel.
4

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

7 32 MRSA §93-A is enacted to read:

8 §93-A. Communicable disease notification

9 Notwithstanding any inconsistent provisions of
10 any public or private and special law, every hospital
11 licensed by the State, which accepts patients trans-
12 ferred by ambulance, shall notify ambulance crews
13 when they have transported a patient with a communi-
14 cable disease which requires medical attention.

1 In such cases, the hospital shall notify the
2 crews as promptly as is consistent with the type and
3 severity of the disease. The hospital shall advise
4 the crews of the type of medical diagnostic and
5 treatment attention required, but is not obligated
6 under this section to provide that care. Failure of
7 a hospital to comply with this section shall subject
8 that hospital to a fine of not more than \$500.

9 No civil action may be brought in any court
10 against any hospital for injuries alleged to have
11 been caused by the hospital's compliance with this
12 section, particularly as relates to the sharing of
13 patient diagnostic information with ambulance person-
14 nel who have been in contact with the patient.

15 STATEMENT OF FACT

16 Currently, there is no requirement that hospitals
17 contact ambulance services when their staff discovers
18 that a patient received by the hospital has an infec-
19 tious disease to which the ambulance crew may have
20 been exposed. The purpose of this bill is to require
21 hospitals to make such contacts within a reasonable
22 period of time so that ambulance crews can seek care
23 if necessary.

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