

MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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114th MAINE LEGISLATURE

SECOND REGULAR SESSION - 1990

Legislative Document

No. 2070

S.P. 807

In Senate, January 3, 1990

Submitted by the Department of Human Services pursuant to Joint Rule 24.

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

A handwritten signature in cursive script, reading 'Joy J. O'Brien'.

JOY J. O'BRIEN
Secretary of the Senate

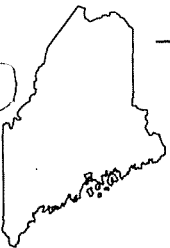
Presented by Senator RANDALL of Washington.

Cosponsored by Senator TITCOMB of Cumberland, Representative PENDLETON of Scarborough and Representative KETOVER of Portland.

STATE OF MAINE

IN THE YEAR OF OUR LORD
NINETEEN HUNDRED AND NINETY

An Act to Assist the Department of Human Services in Conducting Chronic Disease Investigations and Evaluating the Completeness or Data Quality of its Disease Surveillance Programs.



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

2
4 22 MRSA §1692-B is enacted to read:

6 §1692-B. Investigations

8 The Department of Human Services shall be given access to
10 all confidential reports and records filed, by physicians,
12 hospitals or other private or public sector organizations, with
14 all departments, agencies, commissions or boards of the State for
16 the purpose of conducting investigations or evaluating the
18 completeness or quality of data submitted to the department's
20 disease surveillance programs. The department shall follow the
22 data confidentiality requirements of the departments, agencies,
24 commissions or boards of the State providing this information.

26 Upon notification by the Department of Human Services,
28 physicians or hospitals shall provide to the department any
30 further information requested for the purpose of conducting
32 investigations or evaluating the completeness or quality of data
34 submitted to the department's disease surveillance programs.

36 No physician or hospital is liable for any civil damages as
38 a result of the department's use of information for the purpose
40 of conducting investigations or evaluating the completeness or
42 quality of data submitted to the department's disease
surveillance programs.

28
30 STATEMENT OF FACT

32 The Department of Human Services is cooperating with the
34 Maine Health Care Finance Commission on a project supported by
36 the Centers for Disease Control to establish a chronic disease
38 surveillance system by linking hospital discharge data with
40 cancer registry and vital statistics data. This bill allows the
42 Department of Human Services access to confidential data filed
with departments, agencies, commissions or boards of the State
for the purpose of conducting chronic disease or data quality
investigations. The bill also provides that physicians and
hospitals are not liable for civil damages resulting from these
investigations.