

MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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116th MAINE LEGISLATURE

FIRST REGULAR SESSION-1993

Legislative Document

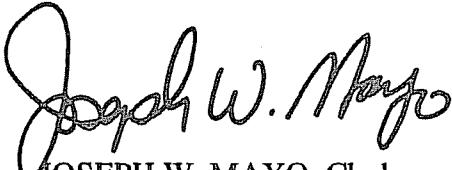
No. 1189

H.P. 875

House of Representatives, April 6, 1993

An Act to Establish a State Trauma Care System.

Submitted by the Department of Public Safety pursuant to Joint Rule 24.
Reference to the Committee on Human Resources suggested and ordered printed.


JOSEPH W. MAYO, Clerk

Presented by Representative PENDEXTER of Scarborough.
Cosponsored by Representatives: FARNUM of South Berwick, LINDAHL of Northport.

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

2
4 Sec. 1. 5 MRSA §12004-I, sub-§49-B is enacted to read:

6 49-B. State Trauma Not 32 MRSA
8 Human Prevention Authorized §87-A
10 Services and Control
 Advisory
 Committee

12 Sec. 2. 32 MRSA §81-A, last ¶, as amended by PL 1989, c. 857,
§60, is further amended to read:

14 It is the intent of the Legislature to designate that a
16 central agency be responsible for the coordination and
18 integration of all state activities concerning emergency medical
20 services and the overall planning, evaluation, coordination,
22 facilitation and regulation of emergency medical services
24 systems. Further, the Legislature finds that the provision of
26 prompt, efficient and effective emergency medical care, a
28 well-coordinated trauma care system, effective communication
between prehospital care providers and hospitals and the safe
handling and transportation of the sick and injured are key
elements of an emergency medical services system. This chapter
is intended to promote the public health, safety and welfare by
providing for the creation of a statewide emergency medical
services system with standards for all providers of emergency
medical services.

30 Sec. 3. 32 MRSA §83, sub-§§23 and 24 are enacted to read:

32 23. Trauma. "Trauma" means a single or multisystem
34 life-threatening or limb-threatening injury requiring immediate
medical or surgical intervention or treatment to prevent death or
36 permanent disability.

38 24. Trauma care system. "Trauma care system" means a
40 subsystem within the emergency medical services system,
consisting of an organized arrangement of personnel, equipment
42 and facilities, designed to manage the treatment of the trauma
patient.

44 Sec. 4. 32 MRSA §87-A is enacted to read:

46 §87-A. Trauma care system

48 1. Trauma care system development. Maine Emergency Medical
Services shall develop, coordinate and monitor a statewide trauma
50 care system and develop a trauma care system plan with the advice
of the State Trauma Prevention and Control Advisory Committee and
the regional emergency medical services councils.

2 **2. State Trauma Prevention and Control Advisory Committee.**
3 The State Trauma Prevention and Control Advisory Committee, as
4 established in Title 5, section 120004-I, subsection 49-B, is
5 created by the board to advise the board on all matters related
6 to trauma care system development. The committee's members must
7 be broadly representative of trauma prevention and care providers
8 as a whole, must be as geographically diverse as possible and
9 must include, without limitation:

10 A. A representative of the board;

11 B. Four surgeons representing trauma-related subspecialties;

12 C. Two emergency physicians;

13 D. The director;

14 E. An emergency nurse;

15 F. A critical care nurse;

16 G. A trauma rehabilitation specialist;

17 H. A regional emergency medical services coordinator;

18 I. A representative of air ambulance services;

19 J. Two representatives of prehospital care providers;

20 K. Three hospital administrators, one from a small
21 hospital, one from a medium hospital and one from a large
22 hospital;

23 L. A representative of the Maine Hospital Association; and

24 M. A representative of trauma care system users.

25 **3. Trauma registry.** As established in Title 22, sections
26 1421 to 1423, the board shall maintain a statewide trauma
27 reporting system with which the board may monitor the
28 effectiveness of the trauma care system.

29 **4. Trauma care system rules.** With the advice of the State
30 Trauma Prevention and Control Advisory Committee, the board may
31 adopt rules to effect trauma care system development. These
32 rules must include, but are not limited to:

33 A. Trauma care system objectives and standards; and

2 B. Criteria and procedures for determining and approving
3 the type and level of hospital and other health care
4 facility participation in the trauma care system.

6 5. Trauma triage protocols. Trauma triage, transportation
7 and destination protocols for use in the trauma care system must
8 be adopted by the state and regional emergency medical services
9 directors collectively with the advice of the State Trauma
10 Prevention and Control Advisory Committee. These protocols have
11 the same power as protocols otherwise defined in this chapter.

12 6. Immunity. Individuals or institutional providers of
13 trauma care are not civilly liable for negligence for acting in
14 accordance with the trauma system plan, rules or protocols
15 established by Maine Emergency Medical Services.

18 STATEMENT OF FACT

20 This bill authorizes Maine Emergency Medical Services to
21 develop and coordinate a statewide system of emergency care to
22 treat seriously injured patients, including coordination of the
23 roles of hospital and prehospital providers through a system
24 plan, rules and protocols.