

MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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117th MAINE LEGISLATURE

FIRST REGULAR SESSION-1995

Legislative Document

No. 950

S.P. 345

In Senate, March 23, 1995

**An Act to Clarify the Display of Social Security Numbers on
Insurance-related Identification Cards.**

(EMERGENCY)

Submitted by the Department of Administrative and Financial Services pursuant to Joint Rule 24.

Reference to the Committee on Banking and Insurance suggested and ordered printed.

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "May M. Ross".

MAY M. ROSS
Secretary of the Senate

Presented by Senator ABROMSON of Cumberland.
Cosponsored by Representative CAMPBELL of Holden.

2 **Emergency preamble.** Whereas, Acts of the Legislature do not
become effective until 90 days after adjournment unless enacted
as emergencies; and

4
6 Whereas, in 1993 a change in the law prohibited the use of
social security numbers as a means of identification under
certain circumstances; and

8
10 Whereas, many administrative systems utilize social security
numbers for the purpose of identifying individuals eligible for
health insurance coverage; and

12
14 Whereas, any change to the administrative systems will
result in system conversions at a time when costs are a major
concern to most businesses and government; and

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18 Whereas, correction of the law is required promptly to
clarify the use of this important component of health insurance
coverage identification; and

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22 Whereas, in the judgment of the Legislature, these facts
create an emergency within the meaning of the Constitution of
Maine and require the following legislation as immediately
necessary for the preservation of the public peace, health and
safety; now, therefore,

26
28 **Be it enacted by the People of the State of Maine as follows:**

30 **Sec. 1. 10 MRSA §1272**, as enacted by PL 1993, c. 115, §1, is
amended by adding at the end a new paragraph to read:

32 Notwithstanding this section, social security numbers may be
used as identification for medical insurance, including health
34 insurance, dental insurance or prescription drug coverage.

36 **Sec. 2. 10 MRSA §1272-A**, as enacted by PL 1993, c. 533, §1,
is repealed.

38 **Emergency clause.** In view of the emergency cited in the
40 preamble, this Act takes effect when approved.

42
44 **STATEMENT OF FACT**

46 Current law prohibits a business in this State from
displaying a social security number on a credit card, debit card
or customer service card. This bill specifies that the use of
48 social security numbers as identification for medical insurance
is permissible.