

MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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117th MAINE LEGISLATURE

FIRST REGULAR SESSION-1995

Legislative Document

No. 978

S.P. 350

In Senate, March 23, 1995

An Act to Transfer Responsibility for Approval of Employee Assistance Programs.

Submitted by the Office of Substance Abuse pursuant to Joint Rule 24.
Reference to the Committee on Labor 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 STEVENS of Androscoggin.
Cosponsored by Senators: BUSTIN of Kennebec, CASSIDY of Washington, FERGUSON of Oxford, KIEFFER of Aroostook, MICHAUD of Penobscot, Representatives: BARTH of Bethel, CHIZMAR of Lisbon, DAGGETT of Augusta, DONNELLY of Presque Isle, LIBBY of Kennebunk, NADEAU of Saco, NICKERSON of Turner, POIRIER of Saco, TRUE of Fryeburg.

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

2
3 **Sec. 1. 26 MRSA §683, sub-§1, ¶B**, as affected by PL 1989, c.
4 604, §§2 and 3, is amended to read:

5
6 B. The employee assistance program must be certified by the
7 ~~Department of Human Services~~ Office of Substance Abuse under
8 rules adopted pursuant to section 687. The rules shall must
9 ensure that the employee assistance programs have the
10 necessary personnel, facilities and procedures to meet
11 minimum standards of professionalism and effectiveness in
12 assisting employees.

13
14 **Sec. 2. 26 MRSA §687, sub-§1**, as affected by PL 1989, c. 604,
15 §§2 and 3, is amended to read:

16
17 **1. Office of Substance Abuse.** The ~~Department of Human~~
18 ~~Services~~ Office of Substance Abuse shall adopt rules under the
19 Maine Administrative Procedure Act, Title 5, chapter 375, as
20 provided in this subchapter.

21
22 **Sec. 3. 26 MRSA §688**, as affected by PL 1989, c. 604, §§2 and
23 3, is amended to read:

24
25 **§688. Substance abuse education**

26
27 All employers shall cooperate fully with the Department of
28 Labor, Office of Substance Abuse, the Department of Human
29 Services, the Department of Public Safety and any other state
30 agency in programs designed to educate employees about the
31 dangers of substance abuse and about public and private services
32 available to employees who have a substance abuse problem.

33
34
35 **STATEMENT OF FACT**

36
37 This bill corrects an oversight. The original approval for
38 employee assistance programs was carried out by the Office of
39 Alcohol and Drug Abuse. When the Office of Alcohol and Drug
40 Abuse became the Office of Substance Abuse this responsibility
41 was not transferred. The Office of Substance Abuse has continued
42 to perform the function and this bill legitimizes the present
situation.