

MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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117th MAINE LEGISLATURE

FIRST REGULAR SESSION-1995

Legislative Document

No. 1176

H.P. 845

House of Representatives, April 4, 1995

**An Act to Amend the Maine Cancer Registry Law to Require the
Reporting of All Cancer Cases to the Department of Human Services.**

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 black ink that reads "Joseph W. Mayo".

JOSEPH W. MAYO, Clerk

Presented by Representative ETNIER of Harpswell.
Cosponsored by Representatives: LOVETT of Scarborough, MITCHELL of Portland.

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

4 **Sec. 1. 22 MRSA §1402**, as amended by PL 1985, c. 407, §1, is further amended to read:

6 **§1402. Duty of physicians and hospitals**

8 All hospitals and other health care facilities providing screening, diagnostic or therapeutic services with respect to cancer shall report to the Department of Human Services all persons diagnosed as having a malignant tumor no later than 30 days from the date of diagnosis or ~~from~~ discharge from a hospital. The report shall must include information on the person's usual occupation and industry of employment.

16 A physician, surgeon or other health care practitioner who diagnoses or provides treatment for cancer patients, upon notification by the Department of Human Services, shall report to the department any further information requested by the department concerning any person now or formerly under his the health care practitioner's care, diagnosed as having or having had a malignant tumor. A physician, surgeon or other health care practitioner who diagnoses or provides treatment for cancer patients is required to report any newly diagnosed cancer case to the department when that patient will not be referred to a reporting facility for diagnosis or treatment.

28 ~~No-physician-or-hospital~~ A facility or individual complying with the reporting requirements of this section shall ~~be~~ is not liable for any civil damages as a result of such acts.

32 **STATEMENT OF FACT**

34 This bill requires nonhospital health care facilities and health care practitioners to report cancer cases. The purpose of this bill is to attain complete case ascertainment and the optimal functioning of the Maine Cancer Registry.