

# MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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# 118th MAINE LEGISLATURE

## FIRST REGULAR SESSION-1997

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Legislative Document

No. 303

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H.P. 239

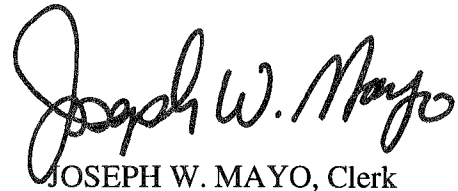
House of Representatives, January 23, 1997

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**An Act to Prohibit Nursing Facilities from Disposing of Medications of Patients Temporarily Absent from the Facilities.**

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Reference to the Committee on Health and Human Services suggested and ordered printed.

  
JOSEPH W. MAYO, Clerk

Presented by Representative MARVIN of Cape Elizabeth.  
Cosponsored by Senator MITCHELL of Penobscot and  
Representatives: BRAGDON of Bangor, JOYNER of Hollis, KERR of Old Orchard Beach,  
LOVETT of Scarborough, WINSOR of Norway, Senators: BENNETT of Oxford, PARADIS  
of Aroostook, PENDLETON of Cumberland.

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

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**Sec. 1. Medications rulemaking.** By October 15, 1997, the Commissioner of Human Services shall adopt rules regarding medication retention in nursing facilities. The rules must ensure that medications are retained that belong to residents who are on leave and who are likely to return and that credit is given to the accounts of residents for medications returned to the pharmacy. Rules adopted pursuant to this provision are routine technical rules as defined in the Maine Revised Statutes, Title 5, chapter 375, subchapter II-A.

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**SUMMARY**

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This bill requires the Commissioner of Human Services to adopt rules regarding medication retention in nursing facilities. The rules must ensure that medications are retained that belong to residents who are on leave from the facility and who are likely to return and that credit is given to the accounts of residents for medications returned to the pharmacy.