

MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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118th MAINE LEGISLATURE

FIRST REGULAR SESSION-1997

Legislative Document


No. 1364

H.P. 984

House of Representatives, March 4, 1997

An Act to Establish Ratios for Direct-care Providers to Nursing Home Residents.

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


JOSEPH W. MAYO, Clerk

Presented by Representative BAKER of Bangor.

Cosponsored by Representatives: BROOKS of Winterport, GREEN of Monmouth, WATSON of Farmingdale, Senators: CATHCART of Penobscot, PINGREE of Knox.

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

2 **Sec. 1. 22 MRSA §1812-C, sub-§8** is enacted to read:

4 **8. Ratios; nursing staff to patient.** The department shall
6 establish the following specific ratios of direct-care nursing
8 staff to patients in nursing facilities:

10 A. Day shift: one direct-care nursing staff member for
12 every 6 patients;

14 B. Evening shift: one direct-care nursing staff member for
16 every 10 patients; and

18 C. Night shift: one direct-care nursing staff member for
20 every 15 patients.

22 An employer may not count a licensed staff member, such as a
24 licensed practical nurse or a registered nurse, in the ratio of
26 nursing staff to patients unless that licensed staff member has a
28 direct-care assignment.

SUMMARY

This bill requires the Department of Human Services to establish the specific ratios listed in the Maine Revised Statutes, Title 22, section 1812-C, subsection 8 of direct care nursing staff to patients in nursing facilities.