

MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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118th MAINE LEGISLATURE

SECOND REGULAR SESSION-1998

Legislative Document

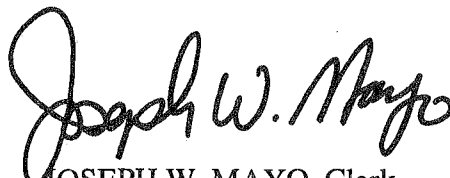
No. 1993

H.P. 1429

House of Representatives, January 14, 1998

**An Act to Require the Development of a Plan for the Recovery,
Identification and Disposition of Human Remains in a Disaster.**

Submitted by the Department of the Attorney General pursuant to Joint Rule 204.
Reference to the Committee on Criminal Justice suggested and ordered printed.


JOSEPH W. MAYO, Clerk

Presented by Representative POVICH of Ellsworth.

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

2
3 Sec. 1. 37-B MRSA §703, sub-§1, as enacted by PL 1983, c. 460,
4 §3, is amended to read:

6 1. Civil emergency preparedness. "Civil emergency
7 preparedness" means the preparation for and the carrying out of
8 all emergency functions, other than functions for which military
9 forces are primarily responsible, to minimize and repair injury
10 and damage resulting from disasters or catastrophes caused by
11 enemy attacks, sabotage, riots or other hostile action, or by
12 fire, flood, earthquake or other natural or man-made human-made
13 causes. These functions include, without limitation, fire
14 fighting, police, medical and health, emergency welfare, rescue,
15 engineering, air raid warning and communications services;
16 radiological, chemical and other special weapons defense;
17 evacuation of persons from stricken areas; recovery,
18 identification and disposition of human remains; economic
19 stabilization; allocation of critical materials in short supply;
20 emergency transportation; existing or properly assigned functions
21 of plant protection; other activities related to civilian
22 protection; and other activities necessary to the preparation for
23 the carrying out of these functions.

24 Sec. 2. 37-B MRSA §704, as amended by PL 1991, c. 376, §65,
25 is further amended by adding at the end 2 new paragraphs to read:

26
27 The director, in consultation with the Office of Chief
28 Medical Examiner, shall prepare a plan for the recovery,
29 identification and disposition of human remains in a disaster.
30 The Office of Chief Medical Examiner is responsible for execution
31 of the plan, with full cooperation and assistance from all other
32 members of the civil emergency preparedness forces.

33
34 This plan must be reviewed and updated as necessary. The
35 director shall see that the plan and the reviews receive suitable
36 dissemination on a timely basis.

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40 SUMMARY

41
42 This bill directs the Director of the Maine Emergency
43 Management Agency, in consultation with the Office of Chief
44 Medical Examiner, to prepare a plan for the recovery,
identification and disposition of human remains in a disaster.