

# MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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# 121st MAINE LEGISLATURE

## FIRST REGULAR SESSION-2003

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Legislative Document

No. 595

S.P. 204

In Senate, February 11, 2003

### **An Act To Appropriate Funds for a Study To Determine the Feasibility of a Medical School in Maine**

(EMERGENCY)

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Reference to the Committee on Appropriations and Financial Affairs suggested and ordered printed.

A handwritten signature in cursive script, reading "Joy J. O'Brien".

JOY J. O'BRIEN  
Secretary of the Senate

Presented by Senator MARTIN of Aroostook.

Cosponsored by Representative SMITH of Van Buren and

Senator: KNEELAND of Aroostook, Representatives: BLANCHETTE of Bangor, DUGAY of Cherryfield, MARRACHÉ of Waterville, PERRY of Bangor, ROSEN of Bucksport, TARDY of Newport, THOMAS of Orono.

**Emergency preamble.** Whereas, Acts of the Legislature do not become effective until 90 days after adjournment unless enacted as emergencies; and

Whereas, the State has no medical school and it appears that creation of such a school can help relieve the present shortage of physicians and ensure an adequate future supply of physicians and make conveniently available to the citizens of this State the increasingly complex and effective facilities of a modern medical school center; and

Whereas, the State must now rely on the generosities of its sister states to educate Maine physicians; and

Whereas, the funds must be made available as soon as possible so that Medical Care Development, Inc. may be hired and commence its study; and

Whereas, in the judgment of the Legislature, these facts create an emergency within the meaning of the Constitution of Maine and require the following legislation as immediately necessary for the preservation of the public peace, health and safety; now, therefore,

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

**Sec. 1. Study by University of Maine.** The University of Maine shall study the feasibility of a medical school in the State to be either located at the University of Maine in Orono or in conjunction with hospitals in Bangor. The University of Maine shall submit a report summarizing its study and including recommendations for legislation, if any, to the Joint Standing Committee on Health and Human Services by December 31, 2003. The committee may report out legislation based on the report to the 2nd Regular Session of the 121st Legislature.

**Sec. 2. Appropriations and allocations.** The following appropriations and allocations are made.

**UNIVERSITY OF MAINE SYSTEM,  
BOARD OF TRUSTEES OF THE**

**Health Science Education Program**

**Initiative:** Provides funds for the University of Maine to contract to study the feasibility of a medical school in the State to be located at the University of Maine in Orono or in conjunction with hospitals in Bangor.

**General Fund**

**2003-04**

**2004-05**

