

MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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123rd MAINE LEGISLATURE

FIRST REGULAR SESSION-2007

Legislative Document

No. 584

H.P. 451

House of Representatives, February 5, 2007

An Act Concerning Animal Control Officers as Mandated Reporters of Abuse

Reference to the Committee on Judiciary suggested and ordered printed.

Millicent M. MacFarland
MILLICENT M. MacFARLAND
Clerk

Presented by Representative SIMPSON of Auburn.
Cosponsored by Senator HOBBS of York and
Representative: BRYANT of Windham.

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

2 **Sec. 1. 22 MRSA §3477, sub-§1, ¶A**, as repealed and replaced by PL 2003, c.
3 653, §9, is amended to read:

4 A. While acting in a professional capacity:

- 5 (1) An allopathic or osteopathic physician;
- 6 (2) A medical intern;
- 7 (3) A medical examiner;
- 8 (4) A physician's assistant;
- 9 (5) A dentist;
- 10 (6) A chiropractor;
- 11 (7) A podiatrist;
- 12 (8) A registered or licensed practical nurse;
- 13 (9) A certified nursing assistant;
- 14 (10) A social worker;
- 15 (11) A psychologist;
- 16 (12) A pharmacist;
- 17 (13) A physical therapist;
- 18 (14) A speech therapist;
- 19 (15) An occupational therapist;
- 20 (16) A mental health professional;
- 21 (17) A law enforcement official;
- 22 (18) Emergency room personnel;
- 23 (19) An ambulance attendant;
- 24 (20) An emergency medical technician;
- 25 (21) Unlicensed assistive personnel;
- 26 (22) A humane agent employed by the Department of Agriculture, Food and
27 Rural Resources; ~~or~~
- 28 (23) A clergy member acquiring the information as a result of clerical
29 professional work except for information received during confidential
30 communications; and
- 31 (24) An animal control officer as defined in Title 7, section 3907, subsection 4;

32 **Sec. 2. 22 MRSA §3477, sub-§1, ¶B**, as repealed and replaced by PL 2003, c.
33 653, §9, is amended to read:

1 B. Any person who has assumed full, intermittent or occasional responsibility for
2 the care or custody of the incapacitated or dependent adult, regardless of whether the
3 person receives compensation; ~~or~~ and

4 **Sec. 3. 22 MRSA §4011-A, sub-§1, ¶A**, as repealed and replaced by PL 2003, c.
5 599, §8 and as affected by §§9 and 14, is amended to read:

6 A. When acting in a professional capacity:

- 7 (1) An allopathic or osteopathic physician, resident or intern;
- 8 (2) An emergency medical services person;
- 9 (3) A medical examiner;
- 10 (4) A physician's assistant;
- 11 (5) A dentist;
- 12 (6) A dental hygienist;
- 13 (7) A dental assistant;
- 14 (8) A chiropractor;
- 15 (9) A podiatrist;
- 16 (10) A registered or licensed practical nurse;
- 17 (11) A teacher;
- 18 (12) A guidance counselor;
- 19 (13) A school official;
- 20 (14) A children's summer camp administrator or counselor;
- 21 (15) A social worker;
- 22 (16) A court-appointed special advocate or guardian ad litem for the child;
- 23 (17) A homemaker;
- 24 (18) A home health aide;
- 25 (19) A medical or social service worker;
- 26 (20) A psychologist;
- 27 (21) Child care personnel;
- 28 (22) A mental health professional;
- 29 (23) A law enforcement official;
- 30 (24) A state or municipal fire inspector;
- 31 (25) A municipal code enforcement official;
- 32 (26) A commercial film and photographic print processor;

- 1 (27) A clergy member acquiring the information as a result of clerical
2 professional work **except** for information received during confidential
3 communications;
- 4 (28) A chair of a professional licensing board that has jurisdiction over
5 mandated reporters; ~~and~~
- 6 (29) A humane agent **employed** by the Department of Agriculture, Food and
7 Rural Resources; and
- 8 (30) An animal control officer as defined in Title 7, section 3907, subsection 4;

9 **SUMMARY**

10 This bill adds animal control officers to the list of professionals who are mandated to
11 report suspected cases of abuse of children and incapacitated or dependent adults.