

MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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126th MAINE LEGISLATURE

FIRST REGULAR SESSION-2013

Legislative Document

No. 597

H.P. 416

House of Representatives, February 21, 2013

An Act To Inform Persons of the Options for the Treatment of Lyme Disease

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

Millicent M. MacFarland
MILLICENT M. MacFARLAND
Clerk

Presented by Representative BRIGGS of Mexico.
Cosponsored by Senator CRAVEN of Androscoggin and
Representatives: BEAUDOIN of Biddeford, BEAVERS of South Berwick, CAMPBELL of
Newfield, DAUGHTRY of Brunswick, DILL of Old Town, ESPLING of New Gloucester,
FARNSWORTH of Portland, GUERIN of Glenburn, JOHNSON of Eddington, KESCHL of
Belgrade, McCABE of Skowhegan, RUSSELL of Portland, SHAW of Standish, STUCKEY of
Portland, VEROW of Brewer, WOOD of Sabattus, Senators: JACKSON of Aroostook,
PATRICK of Oxford.

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

2 **Sec. 1. 22 MRSA §1645, sub-§3**, as enacted by PL 2009, c. 494, §4, is amended
3 to read:

4 **3. Publicly accessible website.** The Maine Center for Disease Control and
5 Prevention shall maintain a publicly accessible website to provide public awareness and
6 education on Lyme disease and other tick-borne illnesses. The website must provide
7 information on the prevention, diagnosis and different alternatives for treatment of Lyme
8 disease and other tick-borne illnesses for use by health care providers and the public,
9 including, but not limited to, links to resources made available and recommended by the
10 United States Department of Health and Human Services and an international nonprofit
11 multidisciplinary medical society.

12 **Sec. 2. Maine Center for Disease Control and Prevention; alternatives for**
13 **the treatment of Lyme disease.** The Department of Health and Human Services,
14 Maine Center for Disease Control and Prevention shall include on the publicly accessible
15 website established pursuant to the Maine Revised Statutes, Title 22, section 1645,
16 subsection 3 information, including links to websites, about treatment guidelines
17 recommended by the Infectious Diseases Society of America and the International Lyme
18 and Associated Diseases Society. The center shall work with health care professionals to
19 inform patients about different alternatives for the treatment of Lyme disease.

20 **SUMMARY**

21 This bill directs the Maine Center for Disease Control and Prevention to include on
22 its publicly accessible website information about different alternatives for the treatment
23 of Lyme disease. The bill also requires the center to include information about treatment
24 guidelines recommended by the Infectious Diseases Society of America, which represents
25 physicians, scientists and other health care professionals who specialize in infectious
26 diseases, and the International Lyme and Associated Diseases Society, an international
27 nonprofit multidisciplinary medical society. The bill directs the center to work with
28 health care professionals to inform patients about different alternatives for the treatment
29 of Lyme disease.