

MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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127th MAINE LEGISLATURE

FIRST REGULAR SESSION-2015

Legislative Document

No. 690

S.P. 248

In Senate, March 3, 2015

An Act To Ensure the Safety of Home Birth

Reference to the Committee on Labor, Commerce, Research and Economic Development suggested and ordered printed.

A handwritten signature in cursive script, reading "Heather J.R. Priest".

HEATHER J.R. PRIEST
Secretary of the Senate

Presented by Senator VOLK of Cumberland.

Cosponsored by Representative HERBIG of Belfast and

Senators: MASON of Androscoggin, PATRICK of Oxford, Representatives: ESPLING of New Gloucester, GILLWAY of Searsport, MASTRACCIO of Sanford, SANBORN of Gorham.

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

2 **CONCEPT DRAFT**

3 **SUMMARY**

4 This bill is a concept draft pursuant to Joint Rule 208.

5 The purpose of this bill is to ensure the safety of women who choose to give birth at
6 home or in freestanding birthing centers attended by certified professional midwives.
7 This bill proposes to license and regulate certified professional midwives practicing in
8 Maine. Among other things, the bill will establish:

9 1. Criteria for licensure and oversight;

10 2. A regulatory body including certified professional midwives, clients, certified
11 nurse midwives and physicians to oversee complaint and disciplinary processes;

12 3. Procedures to allow other health care providers to consult with, collaborate with or
13 accept transfer of care from a licensed certified professional midwife;

14 4. Procedures to allow for protected peer review for licensed certified professional
15 midwives; and

16 5. Requirements for data collection and submission for quality improvement
17 purposes.