

# MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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# 128th MAINE LEGISLATURE

## FIRST REGULAR SESSION-2017

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Legislative Document

No. 273

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H.P. 206

House of Representatives, January 31, 2017

### **An Act To Add an Exception to Prescription Monitoring Program Requirements**

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

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "R B. Hunt".

ROBERT B. HUNT  
Clerk

Presented by Representative HYMANSON of York.  
Cosponsored by Senator BREEN of Cumberland and  
Representatives: HEAD of Bethel, PERRY of Calais, VACHON of Scarborough.

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

2 **Sec. 1. 22 MRSA §7253, sub-§3**, as enacted by PL 2015, c. 488, §9, is repealed  
3 and the following enacted in its place:

4 **3. Exceptions.** The requirements to check prescription monitoring information  
5 established in this section do not apply:

6 A. When a licensed or certified health care professional directly orders or  
7 administers a benzodiazepine or opioid medication to a person in an emergency room  
8 setting, an inpatient hospital setting, a long-term care facility or a residential care  
9 facility; or

10 B. When a licensed or certified health care professional directly orders, prescribes or  
11 administers a benzodiazepine or opioid medication to a person suffering from pain  
12 associated with cancer treatment or end-of-life, palliative or hospice care.

13 **SUMMARY**

14 Current law provides an exception to the requirement to check prescription  
15 monitoring information when a health care professional orders or administers the  
16 medication to a person in an emergency room, an inpatient hospital, a long-term care  
17 facility or a residential care facility. This bill expands the exception to include when a  
18 health care professional orders, prescribes or administers medication to a person suffering  
19 from pain associated with cancer treatment or end-of-life, palliative or hospice care.