

MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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129th MAINE LEGISLATURE

FIRST REGULAR SESSION-2019

Legislative Document

No. 926

H.P. 681

House of Representatives, February 21, 2019

An Act To Protect Hospital Employees from Assault

Reference to the Committee on Criminal Justice and Public Safety suggested and ordered printed.

Handwritten signature of Robert B. Hunt in cursive.

ROBERT B. HUNT
Clerk

Presented by Representative HANLEY of Pittston.
Cosponsored by Senator DOW of Lincoln and
Representatives: HANINGTON of Lincoln, KRYZAK of Acton, MAREAN of Hollis,
SKOLFIELD of Weld, STETKIS of Canaan, SWALLOW of Houlton, Senator:
TIMBERLAKE of Androscoggin.

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

2 **Sec. 1. 17-A MRSA §752-C**, as amended by PL 2015, c. 471, §1, is further
3 amended to read:

4 **§752-C. Assault on an emergency medical care provider or hospital employee**

5 **1.** A person is guilty of assault on an emergency medical care provider or hospital
6 employee if that person intentionally, knowingly or recklessly causes bodily injury to an
7 emergency medical care provider or hospital employee while the emergency medical care
8 provider or hospital employee is providing ~~emergency~~ medical care.

9 **2.** As used in this section, "emergency medical care provider" includes ~~hospital~~
10 ~~personnel assisting in an emergency and~~ emergency medical services persons, defined in
11 Title 32, section 83, subsection 12, but does not include a firefighter as defined in section
12 752-E, subsection 2.

13 **3.** Assault on an emergency medical care provider or hospital employee is a Class C
14 crime.

15 **Sec. 2. 22 MRSA §832-A, sub-§1, ¶C**, as enacted by PL 2017, c. 292, §1, is
16 amended to read:

17 C. "Emergency medical care provider" ~~has the same meaning as in Title 17-A,~~
18 ~~section 752-C, subsection 2~~ includes hospital personnel assisting in an emergency
19 and emergency medical services persons, defined in Title 32, section 83, subsection
20 12, but does not include a firefighter as defined in Title 17-A, section 752-E,
21 subsection 2.

22 **SUMMARY**

23 This bill provides that an assault on a hospital employee while the hospital employee
24 is providing medical care is a Class C crime. It also provides that an assault on an
25 emergency medical care provider while the emergency medical care provider is providing
26 medical care is a Class C crime. Current law provides that an assault on an emergency
27 medical care provider while the emergency medical care provider is providing emergency
28 medical care is a Class C crime. The bill also corrects a cross-reference.