

MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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130th MAINE LEGISLATURE

FIRST REGULAR SESSION-2021

Legislative Document

No. 172

H.P. 125

House of Representatives, January 25, 2021

An Act To Improve Prescription Information Access

Received by the Clerk of the House on January 21, 2021. Referred to the Committee on Health Coverage, Insurance and Financial Services pursuant to Joint Rule 308.2 and ordered printed pursuant to Joint Rule 401.

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

ROBERT B. HUNT
Clerk

Presented by Representative CRAVEN of Lewiston.
Cosponsored by Representatives: CLOUTIER of Lewiston, TALBOT ROSS of Portland,
Senator: LIBBY of Androscoggin.

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

2 **Sec. 1. 32 MRSA §13794, first ¶**, as amended by PL 2019, c. 34, §5, is further
3 amended to read:

4 Every drug dispensed pursuant to prescription, whether for a legend drug or not, must
5 carry on the label the following information: the prescription number; the date of filling;
6 the patient's name; directions for use; the name and strength of the drug and the amount
7 dispensed, including either the brand name of the drug or, if a generic and therapeutically
8 equivalent drug or interchangeable biological product is dispensed ~~the label must be~~
9 information in accordance with section 13781; the beyond use date of the drug; the name
10 of the practitioner prescribing the drug; ~~and~~ the name, address and telephone number of the
11 pharmacy where the prescription was compounded and dispensed; ~~and a barcode that~~
12 allows the patient to digitally access the information on the label. For purposes of this
13 section, "barcode" means a 2-dimensional machine-scannable barcode that can be read by
14 a camera in a mobile device, such as a smartphone, and is used for storing information or
15 directing or leading a user to additional information. For purposes of this section, "beyond
16 use date" means a date beyond which the contents of the prescription are not recommended
17 to be used.

18 **Sec. 2. Maine Board of Pharmacy rulemaking.** By January 1, 2022, the
19 Department of Professional and Financial Regulation, Maine Board of Pharmacy shall
20 adopt rules to implement the requirement in the Maine Revised Statutes, Title 32, section
21 13794 that a barcode that allows a patient to digitally access prescription information
22 appear on a prescription label. Rules adopted pursuant to this section are routine technical
23 rules as defined in Title 5, chapter 375, subchapter 2-A.

24 **SUMMARY**

25 This bill requires a 2-dimensional machine-scannable barcode that allows a patient to
26 digitally access prescription information to appear on the prescription label. It also makes
27 a clarifying technical correction.