

# MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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# 131st MAINE LEGISLATURE

## FIRST REGULAR SESSION-2023

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Legislative Document

No. 781

S.P. 340

In Senate, February 21, 2023

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**An Act to Protect Nursing Home Residents by Requiring Nursing Homes to Provide Silent Bed Alarms for Residents with Dementia**

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

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'D M Grant'.

DAREK M. GRANT  
Secretary of the Senate

Presented by Senator CHIPMAN of Cumberland.

Cosponsored by Senators: BAILEY of York, BALDACCI of Penobscot, FARRIN of Somerset, INGWERSEN of York, MOORE of Washington, Representative: WILLIAMS of Bar Harbor.

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

2 **Sec. 1. 22 MRSA §1834** is enacted to read:

3 **§1834. Silent bed alarms**

4 All licensed nursing facilities shall provide silent bed alarms that directly signal nursing  
5 home staff to residents who have dementia and are unable to use a call button if they fall  
6 out of a bed or chair. The department shall adopt rules to implement this section. Rules  
7 adopted pursuant to this section are routine technical rules as defined in Title 5, chapter  
8 375, subchapter 2-A.

9 **SUMMARY**

10 This bill requires all licensed nursing facilities to prevent injury or death by providing  
11 silent bed alarms that directly signal nursing home staff to residents who have dementia  
12 and are unable to use a call button if they fall out of a bed or chair. The bill also directs the  
13 Department of Health and Human Services to adopt rules to implement this provision.