

# MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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**EIGHTY-SECOND LEGISLATURE**

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**H. P. No. 546**

**H. D. No. 117**

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House of Representatives, Feb. 12, 1925.

Referred to Committee on Legal Affairs and 500 copies ordered printed. Sent up for concurrence.

CLYDE R. CHAPMAN, Clerk.

Presented by Mr. Mitchell of Houlton.

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**STATE OF MAINE**

IN THE YEAR OF OUR LORD ONE THOUSAND NINE  
HUNDRED AND TWENTY-FIVE

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AN ACT Relating to Death Certificates of Physicians.

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

Chapter sixty-four is hereby amended by adding after  
2 the word "dead" in the twelfth line of section twenty-one  
3 thereof, the following: 'No physician shall issue any such  
4 certificate of death unless he had been in actual attendance  
5 upon such deceased during his last illness,' so that said sec-  
6 tion, as amended, shall read as follows:

'Sect. 21. A physician who has attended a person during  
2 his last illness shall within twenty-four hours after the death  
3 of said person make a certificate stating, to the best of his  
4 knowledge and belief, the name of the deceased, his age,  
5 the disease of which he died, and the date of his death,

6 and shall either deliver it to the person superintending the  
7 burial or leave it with the family of the deceased or at the  
8 said physician's office where it may be obtained when called  
9 for; and a physician or midwife who has attended at the  
10 birth of a child dying immediately thereafter, or at the  
11 birth of a still-born child shall, when requested, forthwith  
12 furnish for registration a certificate, stating to the best of  
13 his knowledge and belief the fact that such child died after  
14 birth or was born dead. No physician shall issue any such  
15 certificate of death unless he had been in actual attendance  
16 upon such deceased during his last illness. It shall be a  
17 misdemeanor for any person to make a false return in  
18 regard to any birth or death.'