

MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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NEW DRAFT OF H. P. 1195—L. D. 471

E I G H T Y - N I N T H L E G I S L A T U R E

Legislative Document

No. 1170

H. P. 2230

House of Representatives, April 12, 1939.

Reported by Mr. Bowers from Committee on Public Health and printed under joint rules.

HARVEY R. PEASE, Clerk.

S T A T E O F M A I N E

IN THE YEAR OF OUR LORD NINETEEN HUNDRED
THIRTY-NINE

AN ACT Relating to Prenatal Examination.

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

Sec. 1. Physician to take sample of blood for laboratory test. Every physician attending a pregnant woman in the state during gestation shall in the case of every woman so attended take or cause to be taken a sample of blood of such woman, and submit such sample for a standard serological test for syphilis to a laboratory of the state department of health and welfare or to a laboratory approved for this test by the department. Such laboratory tests as are required by this act shall be made on request without charge by the state department of health and welfare.

Sec. 2. Standard tests to be approved by state department of health and welfare. The state department of health and welfare is hereby authorized to approve one or more tests for syphilis which shall be known as standard tests, and may approve and appoint other laboratories in addition to the state laboratory to make such tests.

Sec. 3. Blood specimens to be accompanied by information blank; report. Blood specimens sent to a laboratory in compliance with section 1 hereof shall be accompanied by an information blank which shall contain the initials of the person whose blood is submitted or a number or

other means of identification, and also the word "Prenatal" to indicate the purpose of the examination.

If the person in question is found to be infected with syphilis, the physician in charge shall make a report to the state bureau of health on a regular blank, supplied by the bureau for the reporting of venereal diseases, adding thereto the word "Prenatal" in addition to such other information as may be indicated on said blanks.

Such reports shall be kept in a special file at the bureau and shall not be considered a public record. However, such reports may be produced in any court procedure where they may be material and relevant, on an order of the justice presiding.

Sec. 4. Existing laws not affected. Nothing in this act shall impair or affect existing laws, rules, or regulations made by authority of law, relative to the reporting of cases of syphilis and gonorrhoea discovered by physicians.