

# MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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NINETY - SECOND      LEGISLATURE

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Legislative Document

No. 467

S. P. 217

In Senate, February 7, 1945.

Referred to Committee on Public Health. Sent down for concurrence and ordered printed.

ROYDEN V. BROWN, Secretary.

Presented by Senator Townsend of Penobscot.

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STATE OF MAINE

IN THE YEAR OF OUR LORD NINETEEN HUNDRED  
FORTY-FIVE

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**AN ACT Relating to Prevention of Blindness.**

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

**R. S., c. 22, § 120, amended.** Section 120 of chapter 22 of the revised statutes is hereby amended to read as follows:

**'Sec. 120. Duty of physician, midwife, or nurse to prevent blindness; penalty.** If one or both eyes of an infant become reddened or inflamed at any time within 4 weeks after birth, the midwife, nurse, or person having charge of said infant shall report the condition of the eyes at once to some legally qualified practitioner of medicine of the town in which the parents of the infant reside. Every physician, midwife, or nurse in charge shall instill or cause to be instilled into the eyes of the infant immediately upon its birth, 1 or 2 drops of a prophylactic solution prescribed by the department, ~~unless either parent or the guardian of the infant shall offer conscientious objections thereto~~ **and provided without cost by the department.** Any failure to comply with the provisions of this section shall be punishable by a fine of not more than \$100, or by imprisonment for not more than 6 months.'