

MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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LAWS
OF THE
STATE OF MAINE

AS PASSED BY THE

ONE HUNDRED AND EIGHTH LEGISLATURE

FIRST REGULAR SESSION

January 5, 1977 to July 25, 1977

PUBLISHED BY THE DIRECTOR OF LEGISLATIVE RESEARCH IN
ACCORDANCE WITH MAINE REVISED STATUTES ANNOTATED,
TITLE 3, SECTION 164, SUBSECTION 6.

PORTLAND LITHOGRAPH COMPANY
PORTLAND, MAINE
1977

PUBLIC LAWS
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§ 1870. Rules and regulations

The commissioner shall, in accordance with the Administrative Code and after a public hearing, adopt, amend and repeal such reasonable rules and regulations as it deems necessary to carry out and interpret the provisions, purposes and intent of this chapter.

Sec. 3. **Appropriation.** There is appropriated from the General Fund to the Department of Agriculture the sum of \$31,000 to carry out the purposes of this Act. The breakdown shall be as follows:

	1977-78	1978-79
AGRICULTURE, DEPARTMENT OF		
Personal Services	(1) \$ 8,840	(1) \$ 9,315
All Other	8,160	4,685
TOTAL	\$17,000	\$14,000

Emergency clause. In view of the emergency cited in the preamble, this Act shall take effect when approved.

Effective June 27, 1977

CHAPTER 382

AN ACT to Clarify Physician Certification of Patient Deaths in Maine Nursing Homes.

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

22 MRSA § 2842, sub-§ 2 is amended by adding at the end the following sentences:

If the patient was a resident of a nursing home licensed under section 1817 at the time of death and if the physician in charge of the patient's care had not examined the patient within 48 hours prior to death, the physician in charge or another physician designated by the physician in charge shall examine the body prior to completing the certification of death process. Any physician who fails to complete the medical certification of the cause of death fully, and in a timely manner, or who fails to examine the body of a nursing home resident prior to certifying cause of death as required by this section shall be reported to the Board of Registration in Medicine or the Board of Osteopathic Examination and Registration, whichever is appropriate, by the State Registrar of Vital Statistics of the Department of Human Services.

Effective October 24, 1977