

MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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LAWS
OF THE
STATE OF MAINE

AS PASSED BY THE
ONE HUNDRED AND FOURTEENTH LEGISLATURE
FIRST REGULAR SESSION

December 7, 1988 to July 1, 1989

Chapters 1 - 502

THE GENERAL EFFECTIVE DATE FOR
NON-EMERGENCY LAWS IS
SEPTEMBER 30, 1989

PUBLISHED BY THE REVISOR OF STATUTES
IN ACCORDANCE WITH MAINE REVISED STATUTES ANNOTATED,
TITLE 3, SECTION 163-A, SUBSECTION 4.

J.S. McCarthy Company
Augusta, Maine
1989

PUBLIC LAWS
OF THE
STATE OF MAINE

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4. Privileged or confidential communications. The physician-patient privilege under the Maine Rules of Evidence is abrogated in relation to a report authorized under subsection 1.

See title page for effective date.

CHAPTER 268

S.P. 178 - L.D. 335

An Act to Strengthen the Social Worker Training and Education Requirements

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

Sec. 1. 22 MRSA c. 1063 is enacted to read:

CHAPTER 1063

SOCIAL WORKERS' AND CASEWORKERS' TRAINING

§3911. Training plan

The department shall develop a training plan for persons employed in social worker and caseworker job classifications. The department shall establish the goals and objectives of the plan. The department shall also establish goals and objectives for each course and training program that must be designed to meet the goals and objectives of the plan. The plan shall include, but is not limited to:

1. Differentiation of training to meet specific needs.

Courses and training programs designed to meet the specific needs of social workers and caseworkers engaged in different activities based on the different responsibilities of these social workers and caseworkers;

2. Mandatory training. Courses and training programs designed to meet the specific needs of social workers and caseworkers for which successful completion shall be mandatory;

3. Optional training. Optional courses and training programs for social workers and caseworkers;

4. Assessment and investigation. Courses and training programs in assessment and investigation that shall be mandatory for social workers and caseworkers who conduct investigations or assessments involving clients of the department that may result in the filing of civil or criminal actions;

5. Sources of training. A description of courses and training programs that departmental staff will conduct and a description of courses and training programs to be conducted by persons outside the department;

6. Evaluation procedure. An evaluation procedure by which the effectiveness of the courses and training pro-

grams can be determined. The department, to the greatest possible extent, will use objective criteria to conduct evaluations of courses and training programs; and

7. Equivalent training. Provisions for the waiver of training programs and courses for social workers and caseworkers with equivalent training or training that exceeds the training requirements in the plan.

§3912. Implementation

The department shall establish a schedule governing successful completion of course and training requirements for newly employed social workers and caseworkers of the department and a schedule for all other social workers and caseworkers currently employed by the department.

§3913. Report

The department shall report to the joint standing committee of the Legislature having jurisdiction over human resource matters and the joint standing committee of the Legislature having jurisdiction over state and local government regarding the training plan and any findings and recommendations, including any necessary implementing legislation of the department, no later than January 3, 1990. The report shall include a statistical analysis of social workers who have taken and completed various courses and training programs provided by the department or by agencies, organizations, or persons outside the department.

Sec. 2. 32 MRSA §7030, sub-§5 is enacted to read:

5. Continuing educational requirements. The board may establish continuing educational requirements as the board deems necessary. In developing these requirements, the board shall consider training requirements for social workers who are required to conduct investigations or assessments which may lead to the filing of civil or criminal actions.

See title page for effective date.

CHAPTER 269

S.P. 155 - L.D. 275

An Act to Strengthen the Regulation of Insurance

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

Sec. 1. 24 MRSA §2323, as repealed and replaced by PL 1979, c. 558, §4, is amended to read:

§2323. Order

The superintendent shall issue his an order or decision within 30 days after the close of the hearing, or of any rehearing or reargument or within such other period as the