



# 126th MAINE LEGISLATURE

## FIRST REGULAR SESSION-2013

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Legislative Document

No. 597

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H.P. 416

House of Representatives, February 21, 2013

### **An Act To Inform Persons of the Options for the Treatment of Lyme Disease**

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Reference to the Committee on Health and Human Services suggested and ordered printed.

*Millicent M. MacFarland*  
MILLICENT M. MacFARLAND  
Clerk

Presented by Representative BRIGGS of Mexico.  
Cosponsored by Senator CRAVEN of Androscoggin and  
Representatives: BEAUDOIN of Biddeford, BEAVERS of South Berwick, CAMPBELL of  
Newfield, DAUGHTRY of Brunswick, DILL of Old Town, ESPLING of New Gloucester,  
FARNSWORTH of Portland, GUERIN of Glenburn, JOHNSON of Eddington, KESCHL of  
Belgrade, McCABE of Skowhegan, RUSSELL of Portland, SHAW of Standish, STUCKEY of  
Portland, VEROW of Brewer, WOOD of Sabattus, Senators: JACKSON of Aroostook,  
PATRICK of Oxford.

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

2 **Sec. 1. 22 MRSA §1645, sub-§3**, as enacted by PL 2009, c. 494, §4, is amended  
3 to read:

4 **3. Publicly accessible website.** The Maine Center for Disease Control and  
5 Prevention shall maintain a publicly accessible website to provide public awareness and  
6 education on Lyme disease and other tick-borne illnesses. The website must provide  
7 information on the prevention, diagnosis and different alternatives for treatment of Lyme  
8 disease and other tick-borne illnesses for use by health care providers and the public,  
9 including, but not limited to, links to resources made available and recommended by the  
10 United States Department of Health and Human Services and an international nonprofit  
11 multidisciplinary medical society.

12 **Sec. 2. Maine Center for Disease Control and Prevention; alternatives for**  
13 **the treatment of Lyme disease.** The Department of Health and Human Services,  
14 Maine Center for Disease Control and Prevention shall include on the publicly accessible  
15 website established pursuant to the Maine Revised Statutes, Title 22, section 1645,  
16 subsection 3 information, including links to websites, about treatment guidelines  
17 recommended by the Infectious Diseases Society of America and the International Lyme  
18 and Associated Diseases Society. The center shall work with health care professionals to  
19 inform patients about different alternatives for the treatment of Lyme disease.

20 **SUMMARY**

21 This bill directs the Maine Center for Disease Control and Prevention to include on  
22 its publicly accessible website information about different alternatives for the treatment  
23 of Lyme disease. The bill also requires the center to include information about treatment  
24 guidelines recommended by the Infectious Diseases Society of America, which represents  
25 physicians, scientists and other health care professionals who specialize in infectious  
26 diseases, and the International Lyme and Associated Diseases Society, an international  
27 nonprofit multidisciplinary medical society. The bill directs the center to work with  
28 health care professionals to inform patients about different alternatives for the treatment  
29 of Lyme disease.