



# 129th MAINE LEGISLATURE

## FIRST REGULAR SESSION-2019

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Legislative Document

No. 867

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H.P. 641

House of Representatives, February 19, 2019

### **An Act To Require Public Health Impact Statements for Certain Legislation**

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Reference to the Committee on State and Local Government suggested and ordered printed.

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "R B. Hunt".

ROBERT B. HUNT  
Clerk

Presented by Representative MORALES of South Portland.  
Cosponsored by Representatives: FECTION of Biddeford, FOLEY of Biddeford, GATTINE of Westbrook, MADIGAN of Waterville, MEYER of Eliot, Senator: GRATWICK of Penobscot.

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

2 **Sec. 1. 3 MRSA c. 39** is enacted to read:

3 **CHAPTER 39**

4 **PUBLIC HEALTH IMPACT STATEMENTS**

5 **§1111. Definitions**

6 As used in this chapter, unless the context otherwise indicates, the following terms  
7 have the following meanings.

8 **1. Committee.** "Committee" means a joint standing committee of the Legislature.

9 **2. Department.** "Department" means the Department of Health and Human  
10 Services.

11 **3. Impact statement.** "Impact statement" means a public health impact statement  
12 that details potential positive and negative public health effects and considerations  
13 necessary to the decision-making process regarding legislation and provides practical  
14 recommendations to increase positive health effects and minimize negative health effects  
15 of the legislation.

16 **§1112. Public health impact statements**

17 When requested by the chairs of a committee, the department shall prepare and  
18 provide to the committee an impact statement for the legislation being considered by the  
19 committee. The department shall provide the impact statement no later than the work  
20 session scheduled for that legislation.

21 **SUMMARY**

22 This bill requires the Department of Health and Human Services, when requested by  
23 the chairs of a joint standing committee of the Legislature, to prepare and provide a  
24 public health impact statement for legislation before the committee. The public health  
25 impact statement must include the potential positive and negative public health effects of  
26 the legislation and considerations necessary to the decision-making process regarding the  
27 legislation and provide practical recommendations to increase the positive health effects  
28 and minimize negative health effects of the legislation.