



127th MAINE LEGISLATURE

FIRST REGULAR SESSION-2015

Legislative Document

No. 989

H.P. 684

House of Representatives, March 18, 2015

**An Act To Limit the Use of Extended-release Hydrocodone
Bitartrate**

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

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

ROBERT B. HUNT
Clerk

Presented by Representative DEVIN of Newcastle.
Cosponsored by Senator GRATWICK of Penobscot and
Representatives: ALLEY of Beals, EVANGELOS of Friendship.

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

2 **Sec. 1. 22 MRSA c. 556-B** is enacted to read:

3 **CHAPTER 556-B**

4 **EXTENDED-RELEASE HYDROCODONE BITARTRATE**

5 **§2357. Extended-release hydrocodone bitartrate**

6 A prescriber may prescribe extended-release hydrocodone bitartrate to a patient only
7 in accordance with the provisions of this section. For the purposes of this section,
8 "prescriber" has the same meaning as in section 7246, subsection 5. A prescription for
9 extended-release hydrocodone bitartrate must specify the maximum daily dose for the
10 patient. Prior to prescribing extended-release hydrocodone bitartrate, a prescriber shall:

11 **1. Monitoring information.** Obtain prescription monitoring information related to
12 the patient from the Controlled Substances Prescription Monitoring Program established
13 in chapter 1603 for the purpose of determining if another prescriber has prescribed
14 extended-release hydrocodone bitartrate to the patient;

15 **2. Follow-up.** Schedule follow-up visits with the patient; and

16 **3. Pain assessment.** Assess the patient's pain to evaluate the likelihood that the
17 patient's pain can be managed with a medication other than extended-release
18 hydrocodone bitartrate.

19 **SUMMARY**

20 This bill establishes requirements for the prescription of extended-release
21 hydrocodone bitartrate.