



# 126th MAINE LEGISLATURE

## FIRST REGULAR SESSION-2013

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Legislative Document

No. 253

S.P. 89

In Senate, February 5, 2013

### An Act Regarding Registration of Fetal Deaths

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Submitted by the Department of Health and Human Services pursuant to Joint Rule 204.  
Reference to the Committee on Health and Human Services suggested and ordered printed.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'D M Grant'.

DAREK M. GRANT  
Secretary of the Senate

Presented by Senator CRAVEN of Androscoggin.  
Cosponsored by Representative SIROCKI of Scarborough and  
Representatives: FARNSWORTH of Portland, MALABY of Hancock.

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

2 **Sec. 1. 22 MRSA §2841, first ¶**, as corrected by RR 2009, c. 2, §54, is amended  
3 to read:

4 Except as authorized by the department or as required under section 1596, a  
5 certificate of each death of a fetus of 20 or more weeks of gestation ~~which~~ that occurs in  
6 this State must be filed with the State Registrar of Vital Statistics or the clerk of the  
7 municipality where the delivery occurred within 14 days after delivery and prior to  
8 removal of the fetus from the State.

9 **Sec. 2. 22 MRSA §2841, sub-§4** is enacted to read:

10 **4. Certificate from hospital or institution.** When the fetal death occurs in a  
11 hospital or an institution, the person in charge of the hospital or institution or the person  
12 authorized to obtain the medical data shall prepare the certificate, certify by signature or  
13 by electronic process that the fetal death occurred at the place and time and on the date  
14 stated and file the certificate as directed in this section. The physician or other person in  
15 attendance shall provide the medical information required on the certificate in a timely  
16 fashion, as specified by department rule.

17 **SUMMARY**

18 This bill allows a fetal death certificate to be filed with the State Registrar of Vital  
19 Statistics as well as with the municipal clerk. The bill also authorizes a hospital or an  
20 institution to prepare a fetal death certificate with medical information provided by a  
21 physician or other person in attendance.