



# 126th MAINE LEGISLATURE

## FIRST REGULAR SESSION-2013

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Legislative Document

No. 539

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H.P. 358

House of Representatives, February 19, 2013

### An Act To Ensure Parity in the Ability To Counsel Patients

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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 FARNSWORTH of Portland.  
Cosponsored by Senator LACHOWICZ of Kennebec and  
Representatives: GIDEON of Freeport, GOODE of Bangor, WELSH of Rockport, Senator:  
HASKELL of Cumberland.

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

2 **Sec. 1. 22 MRSA §1597-A, sub-§1, ¶B,** as amended by PL 1993, c. 600, Pt. B,  
3 §21, is further amended to read:

4 B. "Counselor" means a person who is:

5 (1) A psychiatrist;

6 (2) A psychologist licensed under Title 32, chapter 56;

7 (3) A social worker licensed under Title 32, chapter 83;

8 (4) An ordained member of the clergy;

9 (5) A physician's assistant registered by the Board of Licensure in Medicine,  
10 Title 32, chapter 48;

11 (6) A nurse practitioner registered by the Board of Licensure in Medicine, Title  
12 32, chapter 48;

13 (7) A certified guidance counselor;

14 (8) A registered professional nurse licensed under Title 32, chapter 31; ~~or~~

15 (9) A practical nurse licensed under Title 32, chapter 31; or

16 (10) A clinical professional counselor licensed under Title 32, chapter 119.

17 **SUMMARY**

18 This bill adds licensed clinical professional counselors to the list of persons who may  
19 provide counseling to a minor in connection with the minor's decision regarding  
20 pregnancy.