

PLEASE NOTE: Legislative Information **cannot** perform research, provide legal advice, or interpret Maine law. For legal assistance, please contact a qualified attorney.

## **An Act To Increase Efficiency and Effectiveness in the Licensing of Certain Health and Human Services Providers**

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

**Sec. 1. 5 MRSA §20024**, as amended by PL 1991, c. 850, §5, is further amended by adding at the end a new paragraph to read:

A treatment facility or program that receives and maintains accreditation from a national accrediting body approved by the department must be deemed in compliance with comparable state licensing rules upon its submission to the department of written evidence of compliance including, but not limited to, national accreditation approval, reports, findings and responses. The department may review compliance under this paragraph in response to a complaint against the facility or program.

**Sec. 2. 22 MRSA §7801, sub-§6** is enacted to read:

**6. National accreditation.** A person, firm, corporation or association operating a program or facility described under subsection 1 that receives and maintains accreditation from a national accrediting body approved by the department must be deemed in compliance with comparable state licensing rules upon its submission to the department of written evidence of compliance including, but not limited to, national accreditation approval, reports, findings and responses. The department may review compliance under this subsection in response to a complaint against the program or facility.

**Sec. 3. 34-B MRSA §1203-A, sub-§8** is enacted to read:

**8. National accreditation.** An agency or facility required to obtain a license under this section that receives and maintains accreditation from a national accrediting body approved by the department must be deemed in compliance with comparable state licensing rules upon its submission to the department of written evidence of compliance including, but not limited to, national accreditation approval, reports, findings and responses. The department may review compliance under this subsection in response to a complaint against the agency or facility.

Effective 90 days following adjournment of the 125th  
Legislature, First Regular Session, unless otherwise indicated.