



# 127th MAINE LEGISLATURE

## FIRST REGULAR SESSION-2015

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Legislative Document

No. 534

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H.P. 358

House of Representatives, February 26, 2015

### **An Act To Increase Crisis Intervention Training in the State**

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Reference to the Committee on Criminal Justice and Public Safety suggested and ordered printed.

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

ROBERT B. HUNT  
Clerk

Presented by Representative MALABY of Hancock.  
Cosponsored by Representatives: DION of Portland, GATTINE of Westbrook, GERRISH of Lebanon, HAWKE of Boothbay Harbor, McCLELLAN of Raymond, SANDERSON of Chelsea, SIROCKI of Scarborough, Senator: GERZOFKY of Cumberland.

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

2 **Sec. 1. 34-B MRSA §1219, sub-§2, ¶B,** as enacted by PL 1995, c. 431, §2, is  
3 amended to read:

4 B. Systems for the evaluation of serious mental illness, within 24 hours of contact  
5 with the criminal justice system, of persons charged with minor crimes and timely  
6 referral of those persons identified as seriously mentally ill or as having a mental  
7 health crisis to appropriate community mental health programs;

8 To ensure municipal police departments and county sheriff departments are able to  
9 appropriately identify a mental health crisis and mental illness, beginning January  
10 2017, at least 20% of law enforcement officers in each jurisdiction must have  
11 completed a recognized model of crisis intervention team training. This training must  
12 be provided by a nonprofit mental health entity. Beginning June 2017, municipal  
13 police or county sheriff officers who have not completed a recognized model of crisis  
14 intervention team training must be certified in mental health first aid;

15 **Sec. 2. Rules.** No later than December 15, 2015, the Department of Public Safety  
16 shall adopt rules, which are routine technical rules as described in the Maine Revised  
17 Statutes, Title 5, chapter 375, subchapter 2-A, that specify the Memphis model of crisis  
18 intervention team training, as described in a publication by Randolph Dupont et al.,  
19 "Crisis Intervention Team Core Elements" (The University of Memphis, School of Urban  
20 Affairs and Public Policy, Department of Criminology and Criminal Justice, CIT Center,  
21 2007) as the model of crisis intervention team training that must be completed by law  
22 enforcement officers pursuant to Title 34-B, section 1219, subsection 2, paragraph B.

23 **SUMMARY**

24 This bill requires that, beginning January 2017, at least 20% of law enforcement  
25 officers in a municipal police department and in a county sheriff department must  
26 complete the so-called Memphis model of crisis intervention team training. Beginning  
27 June 2017, officers who have not completed this training must be certified in mental  
28 health first aid.