

STATE OF MAINE

—
 IN THE YEAR OF OUR LORD
 TWO THOUSAND AND FOURTEEN

—
 S.P. 701 - L.D. 1766

**An Act To Clarify and Update a Nurse's Authority To Administer
 Medication**

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

Sec. 1. 32 MRSA §2102, sub-§2, ¶A, as amended by PL 1993, c. 600, Pt. A, §110, is further amended to read:

A. Diagnosis and treatment of human responses to actual or potential physical and emotional health problems through such services as case finding, health teaching, health counseling and provision of care supportive to or restorative of life and well-being and execution of the medical regimen as prescribed by a ~~licensed physician, podiatrist or dentist~~ legally authorized licensed professional acting within the scope of the licensed professional's authority to prescribe medications, substances or devices or otherwise legally authorized individual acting under the delegated authority of a ~~physician, podiatrist or dentist~~ legally authorized licensed professional acting within the scope of the licensed professional's authority to prescribe medications, substances or devices:

- (1) "Diagnosis" in the context of nursing practice means that identification of and discrimination between physical and psychosocial signs and symptoms essential to effective execution and management of the nursing regimen. This diagnostic privilege is distinct from medical diagnosis;
- (2) "Human responses" means those signs, symptoms and processes that denote the individual's health needs or reaction to an actual or potential health problem; and
- (3) "Treatment" means selection and performance of those therapeutic measures essential to the effective management and execution of the nursing regimen;

Sec. 2. Effective date. This Act takes effect January 1, 2015.