



128th MAINE LEGISLATURE

FIRST REGULAR SESSION-2017

Legislative Document

No. 273

H.P. 206

House of Representatives, January 31, 2017

An Act To Add an Exception to Prescription Monitoring Program Requirements

Reference to the Committee on Health and Human Services suggested and ordered printed.

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

ROBERT B. HUNT
Clerk

Presented by Representative HYMANSON of York.
Cosponsored by Senator BREEN of Cumberland and
Representatives: HEAD of Bethel, PERRY of Calais, VACHON of Scarborough.

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

2 **Sec. 1. 22 MRSA §7253, sub-§3**, as enacted by PL 2015, c. 488, §9, is repealed
3 and the following enacted in its place:

4 **3. Exceptions.** The requirements to check prescription monitoring information
5 established in this section do not apply:

6 A. When a licensed or certified health care professional directly orders or
7 administers a benzodiazepine or opioid medication to a person in an emergency room
8 setting, an inpatient hospital setting, a long-term care facility or a residential care
9 facility; or

10 B. When a licensed or certified health care professional directly orders, prescribes or
11 administers a benzodiazepine or opioid medication to a person suffering from pain
12 associated with cancer treatment or end-of-life, palliative or hospice care.

13 **SUMMARY**

14 Current law provides an exception to the requirement to check prescription
15 monitoring information when a health care professional orders or administers the
16 medication to a person in an emergency room, an inpatient hospital, a long-term care
17 facility or a residential care facility. This bill expands the exception to include when a
18 health care professional orders, prescribes or administers medication to a person suffering
19 from pain associated with cancer treatment or end-of-life, palliative or hospice care.