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

# **An Act Concerning Animal Control Officers as Mandated Reporters of Abuse**

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

A.

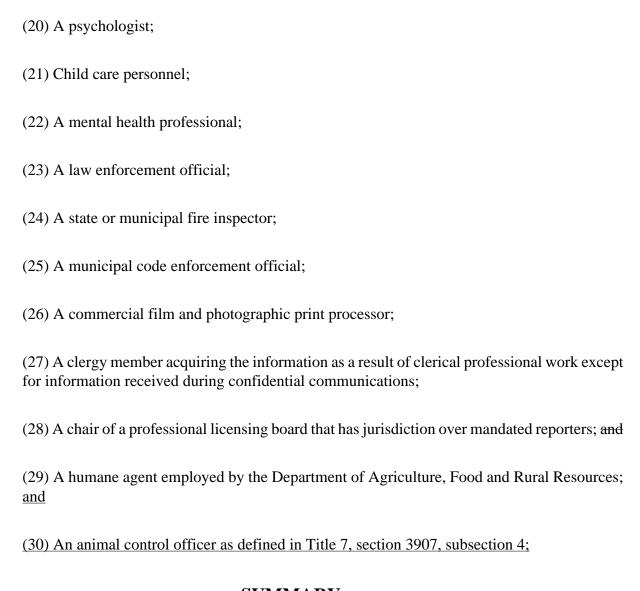
**Sec. 1. 22 MRSA §3477, sub-§1, ¶A,** as repealed and replaced by PL 2003, c. 653, §9, is amended to read:

d to read.
While acting in a professional capacity:
(1) An allopathic or osteopathic physician;
(2) A medical intern;
(3) A medical examiner;
(4) A physician's assistant;
(5) A dentist;
(6) A chiropractor;
(7) A podiatrist;
(8) A registered or licensed practical nurse;
(9) A certified nursing assistant;
(10) A social worker;
(11) A psychologist;
(12) A pharmacist;
(13) A physical therapist;
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(14) A speech therapist;
(15) An occupational therapist;
(16) A mental health professional;
(17) A law enforcement official;
(18) Emergency room personnel;
(19) An ambulance attendant;
(20) An emergency medical technician;
(21) Unlicensed assistive personnel;
(22) A humane agent employed by the Department of Agriculture, Food and Rural Resources of
(23) A clergy member acquiring the information as a result of clerical professional work excep for information received during confidential communications; and
(24) An animal control officer as defined in Title 7, section 3907, subsection 4;
Sec. 2. 22 MRSA $\S3477$ , sub- $\S1$ , $\PB$ , as repealed and replaced by PL 2003, c. 653, $\S9$ , is amended to read:
B. Any person who has assumed full, intermittent or occasional responsibility for the care or custody of the incapacitated or dependent adult, regardless of whether the person receives compensation or and
Sec. 3. 22 MRSA §4011-A, sub-§1, ¶A, as repealed and replaced by PL 2003, c. 599, §8 and as affected by §§9 and 14, is amended to read:
A. When acting in a professional capacity:
(1) An allopathic or osteopathic physician, resident or intern;

(2) An emergency medical services person;
(3) A medical examiner;
(4) A physician's assistant;
(5) A dentist;
(6) A dental hygienist;
(7) A dental assistant;
(8) A chiropractor;
(9) A podiatrist;
(10) A registered or licensed practical nurse;
(11) A teacher;
(12) A guidance counselor;
(13) A school official;
(14) A children's summer camp administrator or counselor;
(15) A social worker;
(16) A court-appointed special advocate or guardian ad litem for the child;
(17) A homemaker;
(18) A home health aide;
(19) A medical or social service worker;

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#### **SUMMARY**

This bill adds animal control officers to the list of professionals who are mandated to report suspected cases of abuse of children and incapacitated or dependent adults.