



Department of Health and Human Services  
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March 15, 2010

Dear EDRS Stakeholder:

Since last I wrote, much progress has been made towards the deployment of Maine's new electronic death registration system, which is scheduled to occur in late spring or early summer. The Maine Center for Disease Control and Prevention (Maine CDC), with the Office of Information Technology (OIT), has been testing the software for its functionality to manage death certificate information, compliance with the Americans With Disabilities Act (ADA), performance, and load (the carrying capacity of the system for multiple concurrent users). We anticipate that the system will be piloted in late April, and are in the process of selecting pilot sites.

I am also pleased to report that the Legislature's Health and Human Services Committee has unanimously recommended the passage of LD 1781, *An Act to Allow Electronic Filing of Vital Records and Closing Of Records to Guard against Fraud and Make Other Changes to the Vital Records Laws*. This bill provides the statutory framework for centralized electronic death registration in Maine.

We are very excited about all of these developments as they will enable us to improve our efficiencies in managing death record information and improve the timeliness and accuracy of our mortality-related surveillance and reporting activities.

Finally, I wish to direct your attention to our new website dedicated to electronic death registration. The URL for the new site is: <http://www.maine.gov/dhhs/boh/phs/odrvs/vital-records/edrs/index.shtml>.

As always, if you would like to learn more about the new EDR and would like to discuss the project with us, please feel free to contact me at Don.Lemieux@maine.gov or 207-287-5468.

Sincerely yours,

Donald R. Lemieux, State Registrar and Director  
Office of Data, Research and Vital Statistics  
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