

# MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

The following document is provided by the  
**LAW AND LEGISLATIVE DIGITAL LIBRARY**  
at the Maine State Law and Legislative Reference Library  
<http://legislature.maine.gov/lawlib>



Reproduced from scanned originals with text recognition applied  
(searchable text may contain some errors and/or omissions)

STATE OF MAINE

IN THE YEAR OF OUR LORD NINETEEN HUNDRED AND NINETY-TWO

JOINT RESOLUTION MEMORIALIZING THE PRESIDENT AND THE  
CONGRESS OF THE UNITED STATES TO SUPPORT THE LEGAL  
AVAILABILITY OF RU-486 FOR APPROPRIATE RESEARCH AND, IF  
INDICATED, CLINICAL PRACTICE

WE, your Memorialists, the Members of the One Hundred and Fifteenth Legislature of the State of Maine, now assembled in the Second Regular Session, most respectfully present and petition the President and the Congress of the United States, as follows:

WHEREAS, the antiprogestosterone steroid, mifepristone, known as RU-486, has been approved and available in France since November 1988; and

WHEREAS, RU-486 may be used to promote normal delivery in childbirth, reducing the need to perform Caesarean sections; and

WHEREAS, the medical community has identified RU-486 as an important treatment for illnesses, including breast and brain cancer, gynecological malignancies, osteoporosis, Cushing's disease and other serious conditions; and

WHEREAS, the American Medical Association, the American Public Health Association, the American College of Obstetricians and Gynecologists and the American Association for the Advancement of Science have formally recognized the importance of RU-486 and support the testing of RU-486 in the United States; and

WHEREAS, RU-486 has been developed and tested in Europe and has been shown to be an efficacious and safe means of terminating early pregnancy when administered orally early in pregnancy by an appropriately trained physician; and

**WHEREAS,** the use of such a medication for terminating early pregnancy constitutes a potentially significant medical and public health gain in terms of cost, efficacy, safety, ease of use and privacy of the physician-patient relationship; and

**WHEREAS,** it is in keeping with basic medical standards to avoid surgical procedures whenever an equally effective noninvasive alternative is available; and

**WHEREAS,** medical research that involves this technology has been stalled because of political biases that overshadow the drug's benefits in treating diseases that are killing American women and men; and

**WHEREAS,** the Food and Drug Administration's import alert against RU-486 has thwarted the availability of RU-486 in the few scientific research studies conducted in the United States; and

**WHEREAS,** all American citizens are entitled to the best medical research and this drug may be the solution to many serious conditions affecting the nation's health; and

**WHEREAS,** the introduction of RU-486 into the United States should be encouraged for its significant medical value; now, therefore, be it

**RESOLVED:** That We, your Memorialists, respectfully recommend and urge the President and the Congress of the United States to support the legal availability of RU-486 for appropriate research and, if indicated, clinical practice; and be it further

**RESOLVED:** That suitable copies of this joint resolution, duly authenticated by the Secretary of State, be transmitted to the Honorable George H. W. Bush, President of the United States; the President of the Senate and the Speaker of the House of Representatives of the Congress of the United States; each Member of the Maine Congressional Delegation; the manufacturers of RU-486, Roussel UCLAF, 35 Boulevard des Invalides 75007, Paris, France; and the Food and Drug Administration.

0418W-LR3884(1)

SPO071

IN SENATE CHAMBER  
READ AND ADOPTED

MAR 27 1992

JOY J. O'BRIEN  
SECRETARY

SENT DOWN FOR CONCURRENCE

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES  
READ AND ADOPTED

MAR 27 1992

IN CONCURRENCE

Edwin J. ...