

MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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ONE HUNDRED AND SECOND LEGISLATURE

Legislative Document

No. 606

H. P. 452

House of Representatives, January 27, 1965

Referred to Committee on Appropriations and Financial Affairs. Sent up for concurrence and ordered printed.

JEROME G. PLANTE, Clerk

Presented by Mr. Doyle of Caribou.

STATE OF MAINE

IN THE YEAR OF OUR LORD NINETEEN HUNDRED
SIXTY-FIVE

RESOLVE, Authorizing the Establishment of a Residential and Day School for the Mentally Retarded in Northern Maine.

Residential and day school for the mentally retarded in Northern Maine. Resolved: There is appropriated from the General Fund the sum of \$179,852 for the fiscal year ending June 30, 1966 and the sum of \$156,830 for the fiscal year ending June 30, 1967 for the purpose of establishing and operating a residential and day school, under the supervision of the Department of Mental Health and Corrections for the provision of education and training for the mentally retarded according to the following schedule:

	1965-66	1966-67
MENTAL HEALTH AND CORRECTIONS, DEPARTMENT OF		
Personal Services	(27) \$109,852	(27) \$111,830
All Other	40,000	40,000
Capital Expenditures	30,000	5,000
	<hr/> \$179,852	<hr/> \$156,830

STATEMENT OF FACTS

In communities where there are few retarded children it is impossible to provide adequate educational opportunities to assist them in developing to a point of independence and ability. It is basically undesirable to admit most retarded

children to an institution remote from their homes and families, and from the opportunity of integrating into their own community settings. Additionally, institutional facilities at Pineland Hospital and Training Center are limited.

In order to provide opportunity for retarded children as boarding or day students it is highly desirable to establish a 5-day a week educational and training program so that the children may obtain the benefits of special education and training and maintain their family ties. Additionally, it is desirable that their school program be as similar to that of normal children as possible, with the regular school vacations and the regular school week. This type of program requires fewer persons to operate it when compared to the 7-day week full custodial program and, consequently, per capita costs are substantially reduced.

Facilities for special education in Northern Maine are limited and population density is low, so that it is highly desirable that such a service for retarded children be instituted in that area. Unused public buildings are available for conversion to this use in Presque Isle at the Northern Maine Sanatorium.

The sum requested would provide a residential program for 30 children and a day program for 30 children, with reconstruction and equipment funds to modify existing structures for this use.