

# MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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ONE HUNDRED AND SIXTH LEGISLATURE

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Legislative Document

No. 860

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H. P. 644

House of Representatives, February 13, 1973

Referred to Committee on Judiciary. Sent up for concurrence and ordered printed.

E. LOUISE LINCOLN, Clerk

Presented by Mrs. White of Guilford.

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STATE OF MAINE

IN THE YEAR OF OUR LORD NINETEEN HUNDRED  
SEVENTY-THREE

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**AN ACT** Relating to Token Compensation for Work Performed by Residents  
of State Penal and Correctional Institutions.

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

**Sec. 1. R. S., T. 34, § 528, additional.** Title 34 of the Revised Statutes is amended by adding a new section 528 to read as follows:

**§ 528. Compensation of working residents of institutions under  
Bureau of Corrections**

Residents in execution of sentence or commitment to institutions under the general administrative supervision of the Bureau of Corrections, performing work related to the maintenance or operation of any such institution, the maintenance or property under the control of any other state department, or the production of goods, shall be compensated therefor the sum of \$1 per day. Such compensation shall be payable in accordance with the regulations of each such institution from appropriations made therefor.

**Sec. 2. Appropriation.** There is appropriated to the Department of Mental Health and Corrections from the General Fund the sum of \$460,000 to carry out the purpose of this Act. The breakdown shall be as follows:

	1973-74	1974-75
MENTAL HEALTH AND CORRECTIONS, DEPARTMENT OF		
Bureau of Corrections		
All Other	\$230,000	\$230,000

## STATEMENT OF FACT

At the present time there are many negative sanctions we can impose on inmates in our state penal and correctional institutions, but very few positive tools of treatment are available to the staff. It is a basic fact that a group cannot function on punishment for negative behavior alone. There must be **some provision** made for rewarding positive behavior. If an inmate works diligently to accomplish his assigned tasks during incarceration, the system should be able to recognize this fact and provide some incentive for this type of behavior.