

MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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FIRST REGULAR SESSION

ONE HUNDRED AND NINTH LEGISLATURE

Legislative Document

No. 501

H. P. 393

House of Representatives, February 13, 1979

Referred to the Committee on Health and Institutional Services. Sent up for concurrence and ordered printed.

EDWIN H. PERT, Clerk

Presented by Mr. Pearson of Old Town.

STATE OF MAINE

IN THE YEAR OF OUR LORD NINETEEN HUNDRED
SEVENTY-NINE

AN ACT Concerning Destitute Indians Outside of Reservations.

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

22 MRSA § 4772-A is enacted to read:

§ 4772-A. Destitute members outside of reservation

When any member of the tribe is found destitute and in distress beyond the tribal reservation and is relieved by the town in this State where he is so found, the overseers of the poor of the town may send to the Commissioner of Human Services a statement specifying the nature, dates and amounts of the supplies and services furnished, which shall be transmitted to the Department of Human Services with such additional statements of fact as the Commissioner of Human Services may think proper. The State shall reimburse the town for the relief so furnished to such extent as the Department of Human Services adjudges to have been necessarily expended. Any member of the tribe found destitute and in distress beyond the tribal reservation may be assisted by the Department of Indian Affairs and, for the purpose of reimbursement, the Department of Human Services shall reimburse the Department of Indian Affairs in the same manner that the Department of Human Services reimburses a town for relief provided to tribal members.

STATEMENT OF FACT

There exists a need to provide direct services to destitute Indians off the reservation by the Department of Indian Affairs who have been turned down by the town of residency for reasons of discrimination, harrassment and denial of needed service.