

L.D. 500

## STATE OF MAINE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES (Filing No. H-256) llOTH LEGISLATURE FIRST REGULAR SESSION

COMMITTEE AMENDMENT "A" to H.P. 453, L.D. 500, Bill, "AN ACT to Amend the Eligibility Age for Preschool Handicapped Children."

Amend the Bill by striking out everything after the enactclause and inserting in its place the following:

'20 MRSA §3202, sub-§1, as enacted by PL 1979, c. 727, §1, is amended to read:

<u>1. Preschool handicapped children.</u> "Preschool handicapped children" means any child who has attained 3 years of age **en-er** befere-October-15th-ef-any-school-year and who has not yet attained the age of 5 on or before October 15th of any school year, and who requires special services in the areas of vision, hearing, speech and language, cerebral or perceptual functions, physical mobility functions, behavior, mental development or maturation, or any combination thereof, as defined by the commissioner, so that his educational potential may be realized.'

## Statement of Fact

This amendment allows the preschool projects to serve handiyears capp ed children from age 3 rather than requiring a child who turns 3 on October 16th or later to wait until the start of the next school year to receive service.

Reported by the Committee on Education. Reproduced and distributed under the direction of the Clerk of the House.