

# MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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# 118th MAINE LEGISLATURE

## FIRST REGULAR SESSION-1997

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Legislative Document

No. 723

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H.P. 532

House of Representatives, February 4, 1997

**An Act to Establish a Residential Care Facility for Veterans in  
Washington County.**

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Reference to the Committee on Health and Human Services suggested and ordered printed.

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Joseph W. Mayo".

JOSEPH W. MAYO, Clerk

Presented by Representative GOODWIN of Pembroke.  
Cosponsored by Representatives: BAGLEY of Machias, BUNKER of Kossuth Township,  
DRISCOLL of Calais.

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

2  
4       **Sec. 1. 22 MRSA §3174-I, sub-§4** is enacted to read:

6       4. Veterans. This section does not apply to veterans who  
reside in the Maine Veterans' Home in Washington County.

8       **Sec. 2. 37-B MRSA §601**, as repealed and replaced by PL 1993,  
c. 680, Pt. A, §34, is amended to read:

10       **§601. Home established; purpose**

12       There must be public homes for veterans in Maine known as  
14 "Maine Veterans' Homes." In addition to the existing home  
located in Augusta, a 120-bed home located in southern Maine, a  
16 home not to exceed 60 beds located in Aroostook County, a home  
located in Bangor not to exceed 120 beds and a home located in  
18 South Paris not to exceed 90 beds may be constructed if federal  
Veterans' Administration funds are available to meet part of the  
20 costs of each facility for construction or operation. In  
addition, ~~a home located in Machias not to exceed 60 beds may be~~  
22 ~~constructed if federal Veterans' Administration funds or funds~~  
~~from any other state, federal or private source are available to~~  
24 ~~meet part of the costs of the facility for construction or~~  
~~operation, except that the Machias home may not begin operation~~  
26 ~~prior to July 1, 1995 and the construction and funding of the~~  
~~Machias home may not in any way jeopardize the construction,~~  
28 ~~funding or financial viability of any other home.~~ The Board of  
Trustees of the Maine Veterans' Homes shall plan and develop  
30 these additional homes and may use any funds available for those  
purposes, except for the Augusta facility's funded depreciation  
32 account. The primary purpose of the homes is to provide support  
and care for honorably discharged veterans who served in the  
34 United States Armed Forces during wartime, including the Korean  
Conflict, the Vietnam War and the Persian Gulf War.

36       When federal funds become available for construction, a  
38 veterans' home with not less than 30 beds must be constructed in  
Washington County. This home must be designed to provide  
40 residential care or assisted living care for veterans not being  
served by existing veterans' homes. Eligibility for  
42 reimbursement under the Medicaid program for residence in this  
home must be determined using Medicaid eligibility standards in  
44 effect prior to July 1, 1994. The Board of Trustees of the Maine  
Veterans' Homes shall consult with veterans' organizations and  
46 nonprofit organizations in Washington County and shall establish  
a method of including those organizations in the management of  
48 the veterans' home.

