

# MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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# 127th MAINE LEGISLATURE

## FIRST REGULAR SESSION-2015

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Legislative Document

No. 1428

H.P. 974

House of Representatives, May 21, 2015

**An Act To Establish the Forensic Treatment Fund To Establish a  
Behavioral Assessment and Safety Evaluation Unit**

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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 "R. B. Hunt".

ROBERT B. HUNT  
Clerk

Presented by Representative MARTIN of Eagle Lake. (GOVERNOR'S BILL)

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

2 **Sec. 1. 22-A MRSA §217** is enacted to read:

3 **§217. Forensic Treatment Fund**

4 **1. Forensic Treatment Fund.** The Forensic Treatment Fund, referred to in this  
5 section as "the fund," is established as a nonlapsing fund in the department to carry out  
6 the purpose under subsection 2. The department shall administer the fund. The fund  
7 consists of appropriations and allocations made to the fund. The fund must be held  
8 separate and apart from all other money, funds and accounts.

9 **2. Fund purpose.** The purpose of the fund is to provide funding for the  
10 establishment and operation by the commissioner of a freestanding behavioral assessment  
11 and safety evaluation unit to provide a secure facility for the psychiatric care and  
12 treatment of persons who are being evaluated pursuant to Title 15, section 101-D or who  
13 have been committed to the custody of the commissioner pursuant to Title 15, section 103  
14 and adult jail inmates who are eligible for admission to a state mental health institute  
15 under Title 34-B, section 3863.

16 **Sec. 2. Appropriations and allocations.** The following appropriations and  
17 allocations are made.

18 **HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES, DEPARTMENT OF**

19 **Forensic Treatment Fund**

20 Initiative: Provides funds for establishing and operating a behavioral assessment and  
21 safety evaluation unit.

22			
23	<b>GENERAL FUND</b>	<b>2015-16</b>	<b>2016-17</b>
24	All Other	\$0	\$1,541,666
25			
26	<b>GENERAL FUND TOTAL</b>	<b>_____ \$0</b>	<b>_____ \$1,541,666</b>

27 **SUMMARY**

28 This bill establishes and appropriates funds to the Forensic Treatment Fund in the  
29 Department of Health and Human Services. It funds the establishment and operation by  
30 the Commissioner of Health and Human Services of a behavioral assessment and safety  
31 evaluation unit.