

NINETY-FOURTH LEGISLATURE

Legislative Document

No 1444

H. P. 631 House of Representatives, April 6, 1949. Reported by Mr. Jacobs from Committee on Appropriations and Financial Affairs and printed under Joint Rule 10.

HARVEY R. PEASE, Clerk.

Presented by Mr. Kent of Randolph.

STATE OF MAINE

IN THE YEAR OF OUR LORD NINETEEN HUNDRED FORTY-NINE

RESOLVE, Providing for Construction of Dormitory for Female Patients at Augusta State Hospital.

Augusta state hospital; appropriation for construction. Resolved: That the sum of \$460,000 be, and hereby is, appropriated from the unappropriated surplus of the general fund for construction and equipping of one dormitory to house 150 female patients at the Augusta State Hospital, and make such changes in heating system as are necessary to accommodate expansion.

STATEMENT OF FACTS

This building is for the purpose of relieving overcrowded conditions which are particularly serious on the female side of the hospital. There is a total overcrowding of approximately 310 beds of which about 230 are on the female side.

By erection of this building this overcrowding of the female side will be substantially reduced to the benefit of the care and treatment of the patients. This building is especially important to permit improved segregation of the increasing load of senile patients, thus providing facilities for better care of this group and freeing other facilities of the hospital for better treatment of acute admissions.

Another such building is in the department's plan for consideration of the Legislature in the near future. These two buildings, together with the construction of a proposed wing to relieve overcrowding on the male side will meet the current needs for patient care at this hospital, which now cares for an average of nearly 1,600 patients, despite an improved rate of discharge.

The last new construction at the Augusta State Hospital was in 1937 when the so called Ray Building was built.