

# MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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N I N E T Y - S E V E N T H L E G I S L A T U R E

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**Legislative Document**

**No. 1084**

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H. P. 957

House of Representatives, March 1, 1955

Referred to the Committee on Appropriations and Financial Affairs, sent up for concurrence and ordered printed.

HARVEY R. PEASE, Clerk

Presented by Mr. Hancock of York.

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**STATE OF MAINE**

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IN THE YEAR OF OUR LORD NINETEEN HUNDRED  
FIFTY-FIVE

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**RESOLVE, in Favor of Town of Old Orchard.**

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**Beach at Old Orchar maintained; lifeguard; appropriation for. Resolved:** That there be, and hereby is, appropriated from the unappropriated surplus of the general fund the sum of \$15,000 to the town of Old Orchard Beach, County of York, to clean and maintain its beach and to provide police and lifeguard protection to those who use the beach.

STATEMENT OF FACTS

Old Orchard Beach, has an area of sand approximately  $3\frac{1}{2}$  miles long and ranging 100 to 150 yards wide. Flotsam and jetsam cast up by the Atlantic Ocean places a terrific burden on the Town of Old Orchard Beach, to clean the area. From Memorial Day through Labor Day, Old Orchard Beach accommodates as many as 100,000 to 150,000 people. The amount of paper and other debris which accumulates on the beach, as the result of this mass of population is readily undescrivable and totally beyond the finances of the town to clean and maintain this waterfront area in order that it should be considered as an asset to the State of Maine. The Town of Old Orchard Beach, spent \$9,000 to clean its beach in the year 1954, and the funds were not adequate. The Town of Old Orchard Beach appropriated \$6,000 for lifeguards service for the protection of lives along the beachfront and could only afford to thereby employ 13 lifeguards. One of these lifeguards is the captain; this means about 3 guards per mile of beach. The

greater area of this  $3\frac{1}{2}$  miles of beach is unlighted and quite impossible to properly police in the night time.

Insomuch as Old Orchar Beach accommodates people from Biddeford, Saco, Sanford, Alfred, Portland, South Portland, and all towns and motels from within a 50 mile area it does not seem just and proper that the entire burden of cleaning and maintaining police protection as well as lifeguard service should be borne by the few taxpayers in Old Orchard Beach.