

MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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August 17, 1950

To Edward P. Witham, Business Agent, Pownal State School

I have your letter of August 15th, requesting an opinion whether there is any liability on the part of a town in which an inmate of the institution holds a pauper residence, for any outside medical or surgical expense which said inmate requires while in the custody of the School.

The only provision of statute in regard to support of inmates in the Pownal State School is in Section 153 of Chapter 23, which provides that if they are destitute and are proper subjects for the school and have no parents, kinsmen or guardians able to provide for them, they may be admitted as State charges. If patients have entered as State charges and require medical or surgical care, there is no provision of statute to collect from the towns under the pauper laws.

Ralph W. Farris
Attorney General

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