

# MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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ONE - HUNDRED TH LEGISLATURE

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Legislative Document

No. 524

S. P. 191

In Senate, January 19, 1961

Referred to Committee on Appropriations and Financial Affairs. Sent down for concurrence and ordered printed.

CHESTER T. WINSLOW, Secretary

Presented by Senator Davis of Cumberland.

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STATE OF MAINE

IN THE YEAR OF OUR LORD NINETEEN HUNDRED  
SIXTY-ONE

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AN ACT Providing Expanded Community Mental Health Services.

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

Sec. 1. R. S., c. 27, §§ 142-A - 142-F, additional. Chapter 27 of the Revised Statutes is amended by adding 6 new sections to be numbered 142-A to 142-F, to read as follows:

‘Community Mental Health Services.

Sec. 142-A. Purpose. The purpose of sections 142-A to 142-F is to expand community mental health services; to encourage participation in such a program by persons in local communities; to obtain better understanding of the need of such services and to secure aid for the program by state aid and local financial support.

Sec. 142-B. Powers. The Department of Mental Health and Corrections may provide mental health services throughout the State, and for that purpose may cooperate with other state agencies, municipalities, persons and nonprofit corporations. The Department of Mental Health and Corrections shall adopt and promulgate rules and regulations relating to the administration of the services authorized by sections 142-A to 142-F. Under sections 142-A to 142-F, funds will be granted by the commissioner only to those organizations whose programs provide for adequate standards of professional service. The Department of Mental Health and Corrections may receive and use for the purpose of sections 142-A to 142-F money appropriated by the State and grants by the United States Government and gifts from individuals.

Sec. 142-C. Municipalities and other governmental units. A municipality or other governmental unit, such as a county, school district, health district, etc.,

through its local board of health or other town or governmental agency approved by the Department of Mental Health and Corrections, is authorized to adopt and carry out a program of mental health services established or approved by the Department of Mental Health and Corrections and appropriate money for that purpose. A municipality or other governmental unit may join with another municipality or governmental unit to carry out such a program.

**Sec. 142-D. State aid.** Upon application to the Department of Mental Health and Corrections by such municipality, governmental unit or by a nonprofit corporation organized for the improving of community health and welfare, the Department of Mental Health and Corrections may grant to the municipality, governmental unit or nonprofit organization money to be used for carrying out its mental health services.

**Sec. 142-E. Amount.** Such grant of money shall not exceed in any single year  $\frac{1}{2}$  of the operating expenses incurred by the municipality, governmental unit or nonprofit corporation receiving the grant after deducting from said expense the fees, if any, received for the services rendered. Consideration shall be given to the ability of the municipality or governmental unit to support the mental health services, as reflected by the state's evaluation of the component communities. For nonprofit corporations, all income and resources shall be taken into account.

**Sec. 142-F. Fees.** The program authorized by the Department of Mental Health and Corrections may include the providing of services by said department or the municipality, governmental unit or nonprofit corporation directly to individuals, for which a fee may be charged if the individual is financially able to pay the same. Fees received by the Department of Mental Health and Corrections, municipality, governmental unit or nonprofit corporation are appropriated to each for use in carrying out its duties under sections 142-A to 142-F.'

**Sec. 2. Appropriation.** There is appropriated to the Department of Mental Health and Corrections the sum of \$100,000 for the fiscal year ending June 30, 1962 and the sum of \$100,000 for the fiscal year ending June 30, 1963 from the General Fund to carry out the provisions of this act. The breakdown of the appropriation shall be as follows:

	1961-62	1962-63
MENTAL HEALTH AND CORRECTIONS, DEPARTMENT OF		
Community Mental Health Services		
All Other	\$100,000	\$100,000.

Any unexpended balances shall not lapse but shall remain a continuing carrying account until June 30, 1963.