

# MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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ONE - HUNDRETH LEGISLATURE

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Legislative Document

No. 1363

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H. P. 976

House of Representatives, February 8, 1961

Referred to Committee on Health and Institutional Services. Sent up for concurrence and ordered printed.

HARVEY R. PEASE, Clerk

Presented by Mr. Smith of Strong.

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STATE OF MAINE

IN THE YEAR OF OUR LORD NINETEEN HUNDRED  
SIXTY-ONE

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AN ACT Providing for the Rehabilitation of Alcoholics.

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

**Sec. 1. R. S., c. 25, §§ 91-A - 91-C, additional.** Chapter 25 of the Revised Statutes is amended by adding 3 new sections to be numbered 91-A to 91-C, to read as follows:

**'Sec. 91-A. Duties.** It shall be the duty of the Commissioner of Health and Welfare to formulate and effect a program for the prevention, care, treatment and rehabilitation of alcoholics. The program shall:

**I. Treatment.** Furnish such aid to alcoholics in any manner which, in the commissioner's judgment will afford the greatest benefit to said alcoholics, and shall have the power in this connection to make suitable arrangements with hospitals, clinics, doctors, counseling services or municipal overseers of the poor which, in his discretion, shall be deemed advisable to afford proper treatment, care or rehabilitation of alcoholics.

**II. Out-patient clinics.** Set up and operate out-patient clinics in various areas of the State and cooperate with and assist similar clinics operated by the nonprofit agencies.

**III. Education program.** Carry on an educational program on alcoholism for the benefit of the general public, chronic alcoholics or professional persons who care for or may be engaged in the care and treatment of alcoholics.

**IV. Indigent alcoholics.** Cooperate with properly qualified private doctors of medicine in making arrangements for the treatment and care of indigent alcoholics, and may arrange for payment for hospital care on a cost basis for such indigent alcoholics.

**V. Training.** Provide a program of training for departmental personnel assigned the administration of sections 91 and 92.

**Sec. 91-B. Rules and regulations; reports.** The commissioner shall, with the advice of the advisory committee, to make such rules and regulations as he may deem necessary to carry out sections 91 and 92. The commissioner shall report to the Governor within 15 days after the convening of each regular legislative session, which report shall be transmitted by the Governor to the Legislature.

**Sec. 91-C. Authority to accept gifts.** The commissioner is authorized to accept, receive, administer and expend any gifts or grants of any description.'

**Sec. 2. R. S., c. 25, § 92-A, additional.** Chapter 25 of the Revised Statutes is amended by adding a new section 92-A, to read as follows:

**'Sec. 92-A. Alcoholic Rehabilitation Fund.** To provide funds for the rehabilitation of alcoholics, there is established a fund to be known as the "Alcoholic Rehabilitation Fund" to be created and maintained from funds taken from the liquor tax imposed under chapter 61, section 14, amounting to 1% of the revenue derived from the tax on vinous and spirituous liquor and \$1 per gallon from the tax received on each gallon of malt liquor. The fund shall be deposited with the Treasurer of State to carry out sections 91 to 92-A. Such funds shall not lapse but shall remain a continuing carrying account.'