

MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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ONE - HUNDRETH LEGISLATURE

Legislative Document

No. 1605

S. P. 558

In Senate, May 17, 1961

Reported by Senator Davis of Cumberland from Committee on Appropriations and Financial Affairs. Printed under Joint Rules No. 10.

CHESTER T. WINSLOW, Secretary

STATE OF MAINE

IN THE YEAR OF OUR LORD NINETEEN HUNDRED
SIXTY-ONE

AN ACT Establishing a Medical Care and Services Program.

Emergency preamble. Whereas, acts and resolves do not become effective until 90 days after the Legislature adjourns unless passed as emergencies; and

Whereas, there is a state-wide need for medical care legislation that will more adequately reimburse hospital and nursing homes for care administered to public welfare recipients and of medically indigent persons and provide for other medical care for these persons; and

Whereas, the following legislation is imperative in order to receive federal grants for medical care and services of such indigent persons as contemplated by the Federal Social Security Act; and

Whereas, in the judgment of the Legislature, these facts create an emergency within the meaning of the Constitution of Maine, and require the following legislation as immediately necessary for the preservation of the public peace, health and safety; now, therefore,

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

R. S., c. 25, §§ 319-V - 319-Y, additional. Chapter 25 of the Revised Statutes is amended by adding 4 new sections to be numbered 319-V to 319-Y, to read as follows:

'Medical Care and Services Program.

Sec. 319-V. Medical care and services program. The department is authorized to establish a medical or remedial care and services program for medically indigent persons who are not recipients of public assistance.

The department is authorized and empowered to make all necessary rules and regulations for the administration of this program, including but not limited to defining the term medically indigent; the type of medical care to be provided; the amount to be paid for hospitalization and the length of hospitalization allowed during a fiscal year.

Sec. 319-W. Federal grants. The Treasurer of State shall be the appropriate fiscal officer of the State to receive federal grants on account of medical care and services and administration thereof, as contemplated by the Federal Social Security Act, as amended, and the State Controller shall authorize expenditures therefrom as approved by said department.

Sec. 319-X. Not to pauperize. Medical care and services provided for any person under section 319-V shall not be considered as pauper supplies as defined by chapter 94, section 2.

Sec. 319-Y. Fund shall not lapse. Appropriations for this purpose shall not lapse but shall be a continuing account so long as federal grants are available to match the state's contribution. No payments matchable by federal funds shall be made out of said account if federal grants are withdrawn, except that care and services contracted for before the date of such withdrawal shall be paid. Any money allocated to matching of federal grants left in the account in the event of withdrawal of federal grants shall be divided between the State and the Federal Government in proportion to the amount contributed by each.'

Emergency clause. In view of the emergency cited in the preamble, this act shall take effect when approved.