

# MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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# ONE HUNDRED AND SECOND LEGISLATURE

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**Legislative Document**

**No. 278**

H. P. 210

House of Representatives, January 19, 1965

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

JEROME G. PLANTE, Clerk

Presented by Mr. Whittier of Farmington.

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## STATE OF MAINE

IN THE YEAR OF OUR LORD NINETEEN HUNDRED  
SIXTY-FIVE

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### AN ACT Providing for Rehabilitation of Alcoholics.

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

**Sec. 1. R. S., T. 22, §§ 1351-A, 1351-B, 1351-C, additional.** Title 22 of the Revised Statutes is amended by adding 3 new sections 1351-A, 1351-B and 1351-C, to read as follows:

**‘Sec. 1351-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:

1. **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;

2. **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;

3. **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;

4. **Indigent alcoholics.** Cooperate with properly qualified private doctors of medicine in making arrangements for the treatment and care of indigent alco-

holics, and may arrange for payment for hospital care on a cost basis for such indigent alcoholics, in the treatment of his alcoholism;

5. Training. Provide a program of training for departmental personnel assigned the administration of sections 1351 and 1352.

Sec. 1351-B. Rules and regulations; reports. The commissioner shall, with the advice of the advisory committee, make such rules and regulations as he may deem necessary to carry out sections 1351 and 1352. 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. 1351-C. Authority to accept gifts. The commissioner is authorized to accept, receive, administer and expend any gifts or grants of any descriptions to carry out sections 1351-A to 1351-C.'

Sec. 2. R. S., T. 22, § 1352-A, additional. Title 22 of the Revised Statutes is amended by adding a new section 1352-A, to read as follows:

'Sec. 1352-A. Fund; purpose. One percent of the sales on spirituous and vinous liquor and 1c per gallon on beer is appropriated to the Department of Health and Welfare, dedicated to the necessary treatment, care and rehabilitation of alcoholics.

Said funds shall be deposited with the Treasurer of State to be disbursed in the same fashion as funds are now disbursed for aid to nonsettled state welfare cases, upon presentation of proper vouchers by the agency rendering needed assistance, to carry out sections 1351 to 1351-C.

The receipt of this aid shall not pauperize the recipient thereof.

Payment may be made to municipalities through proper welfare agencies, to hospitals equipped to care for alcoholics, to clinics for care, research and treatment of alcoholics and to the Division of Alcoholic Rehabilitation of the Department of Health and Welfare.'