

# MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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FIRST SPECIAL SESSION  
(EMERGENCY)

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ONE HUNDRED AND SECOND LEGISLATURE

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**Legislative Document**

**No. 1676**

H. P. 1208

House of Representatives, January 17, 1966

The Committee on Appropriations and Financial Affairs suggested.

JEROME G. PLANTE, Clerk

Presented by Mr. Katz of Augusta.

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**STATE OF MAINE**

IN THE YEAR OF OUR LORD NINETEEN HUNDRED  
SIXTY-SIX

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**AN ACT to Provide Funds for the Purchase of Psychiatric Drugs for the  
Department of Mental Health and Corrections, Augusta State Hospital.**

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**Emergency preamble.** Whereas, Acts of the Legislature do not become effective until 90 days after adjournment unless enacted as emergencies; and

Whereas, the admission rate at the Augusta State Hospital has increased sharply in the past several years, more than double the number of patients being admitted and discharged in 1965 as compared with the year 1962; and

Whereas, an increase in the medical staff at the Augusta State Hospital has enabled the marked expansion of the patient after-care service; and

Whereas, the increased admission rate and expansion of after-care or out-patient service have resulted in the administration of unanticipated quantities of psychiatric drugs, which administration of drugs has further resulted in substantial and unforeseen expenditures from the current operating budget of the Augusta State Hospital; and

Whereas, additional funds are vitally necessary for the purchase of psychiatric drugs in order to keep pace with the increase in admission rate and expanded after-care service, and in order to forestall a possible burden on other necessary hospital services due to the lack of funds; 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:

**Appropriation for psychiatric drugs, Department of Mental Health and Corrections for the Augusta State Hospital.** There is appropriated from the Unappropriated Surplus of the General Fund for the purchase of psychiatric drugs for the Department of Mental Health and Corrections, Augusta State Hospital, for the fiscal year ending June 30, 1966, the sum of \$54,000 and for the fiscal year ending June 30, 1967 the sum of \$60,000.

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