

# MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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ONE HUNDRED AND THIRD LEGISLATURE

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**Legislative Document**

**No. 483**

S. P. 220

In Senate, February 1, 1967

Referred to Committee on State Government. Sent down for concurrence and ordered printed.

JERROLD B. SPEERS, Secretary

Presented by Senator Sproul of Lincoln.

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**STATE OF MAINE**

IN THE YEAR OF OUR LORD NINETEEN HUNDRED  
SIXTY-SEVEN

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**AN ACT Creating the Maine Commission on Mental Retardation.**

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

Whereas, the problem of the mentally retarded is of vital importance to the welfare of the State of Maine; and

Whereas, it is vitally necessary that the following legislation become effective immediately so that efforts may be continued to solve this problem; 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:

**Sec. 1. R. S., T. 5, § 711, sub-§ 3, amended.** Subsection 3 of section 711 of Title 5 of the Revised Statutes, as amended by section 1 of chapter 91 of the public laws of 1965, is further amended to read as follows:

**3. Appointed by Governor; certain official clerks.** Heads of departments and members of boards and commissions required by law to be appointed by the Governor with the advice and consent of the Council, bureau directors, and the official clerk of the State Liquor Commission, ~~and~~ the secretary of the Public

**Utilities Commission and the Coordinator of Services of the Maine Commission on Mental Retardation.**

**Sec. 2. R. S., T. 34, c. 182, additional.** Title 34 of the Revised Statutes is amended by adding a new chapter 182, to read as follows :

**CHAPTER 182**

**MAINE COMMISSION ON MENTAL RETARDATION**

**§ 2026. Membership**

The Governor, with the advise and consent of the Council, shall appoint a Commission on Mental Retardation consisting of 12 members, one each from the House of Representatives, the Senate and the Department of Education, the President of the Maine Association for Retarded Children, and 8 citizens, members-at-large, and shall designate the chairman. Members-at-large shall be appointed for 4 years.

**§ 2067. Duties**

The commission shall continue the study of Maine's mentally retarded begun by the Maine Committee on Problems of the Mentally Retarded in 1956. The commission shall provide leadership and stimulation at the state and local level, for the many organizations that are interested in the problems of the mentally retarded in Maine. It shall distribute materials, provide information and furnish speakers on request.

It shall work closely with and assist in the coordination of the efforts of state departments in the conduct of programs affecting the mentally retarded.

The commission is authorized to accept federal funds for programs affecting the mentally retarded. State funds appropriated to the commission may be used for the purpose of matching such federal funds.

**§ 2028. Coordinator; appointment; duties**

The commission shall appoint a Coordinator of Services who shall be a person with administrative experience, with training and knowledge of mental retardation and its problems and who shall hold a degree from a 4-year college or university in the field of psychology, special education or social work. It shall be the duty of the Coordinator of Services to carry out the purposes of the commission, subject to its direction.

**§ 2029. Meetings; expenses**

The commission shall meet at the place and time designated by the chairman, but not less than 6 times per year. The members shall be paid necessary expenses incurred in the performance of their duties.

**Sec. 3. Appropriation.** There is appropriated from the General Fund to the Maine Commission on Mental Retardation the sum of \$19,537 for the fiscal year ending June 30, 1968 and \$19,871 for the fiscal year ending June 30, 1969 to carry out the purposes of this Act according to the following schedule :

	1967-1968	1968-1969
<b>COMMISSION ON MENTAL RETARDATION</b>		
Personal Services	(2) \$14,824	(2) \$15,158
All Other	4,713	4,713
	<u>\$19,537</u>	<u>\$19,871</u>

**Emergency clause.** In view of the emergency cited in the preamble, this Act shall take effect July 1, 1967.