

MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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(EMERGENCY)

ONE HUNDRED AND THIRD LEGISLATURE

Legislative Document

No. 641

S. P. 261

In Senate, February 8, 1967

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

JERROLD B. SPEERS, Secretary

Presented by Senator Snow of Cumberland.

STATE OF MAINE

IN THE YEAR OF OUR LORD NINETEEN HUNDRED
SIXTY-SEVEN

**AN ACT Authorizing Department of Health and Welfare to Provide
Comprehensive Health Services.**

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, federal funds will be available for the fiscal year starting July 1, 1967 for comprehensive health services, and unless plans for such a program are formulated and ready for Maine's full participation on July 1, 1967, such federal funds will be lost to the State; and

Whereas, under PL 89-749, and effective July 1, 1967, a new basis is provided by which Public Health Service funds will be allotted to states in lieu of the present system of categorical grants, such as Heart, Cancer, Tuberculosis, General Health, etc.; and

Whereas, after July 1, 1967, Public Health Services funds will be allotted as a block grant that will then be used by the State in accordance with a "comprehensive plan" as required in PL 89-749; and

Whereas, there are grant funds available for the establishment of what must be an ongoing comprehensive planning process in each state health agency; and

Whereas, each state must make the necessary provisions to establish this planning process. In the absence of such provisions, and the required comprehensive plan and planning resource, there will be no basis on which Public Health Service program support funds can be allotted to a state for the year beginning July 1, 1967; 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., T. 22, § 253, additional. Title 22 of the Revised Statutes is amended by adding a new section 253, to read as follows:

§ 253. Comprehensive health planning

The Department of Health and Welfare is authorized to develop and administer, and continuously adapt, modify or otherwise revise as conditions and circumstances indicate, a plan for providing comprehensive health services, and continued comprehensive health planning in accordance with the Federal Public Health Services Act, as amended by PL 89-749.

Said comprehensive health planning shall be done in cooperation with the State Mental Health Authority and a broadly representative health planning council as provided for in the Public Health Services Act, as amended.

The Department of Health and Welfare is authorized to accept and expend federal funds allotted or otherwise made available under the said Act to states for the purposes of the Act in accordance with the said Act and any amendments thereof, and the applicable State of Maine laws, rules, regulations or fiscal policies or practices.

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