MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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H. P. 321   House of Representatives, January 28, 1969
   Referred to Committee on Education. Sent up for concurrence and ordered
printed.
                                             BERTHA W. JOHNSON, Clerk
   Presented by Miss Watson of Bath.

STATE OF MAINE

IN THE YEAR OF OUR LORD NINETEEN HUNDRED SIXTY-NINE

AN ACT Relating to the Education of Blind Children.

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

   R. S., T. 22, § 3502, amended. Section 3502 of Title 22 of the Revised
Statutes is amended to read as follows:

§ 3502. Education of blind children.

   Upon the request of the parents or guardians, the department may send
such blind children as it may deem fit subjects for education ~~for a term not
exceeding 10 years, and thereafter in the discretion of the department, in the
case of any pupil, to the Perkins Institution and Massachusetts School for the
Blind at Watertown, Massachusetts or other~~ to any school considered by the
department to be qualified to provide suitable education for the blind child.
In the exercise of the discretionary power conferred by this section, no dis-
tinction shall be made on account of the wealth or poverty of the parents or
guardians of such children. ~~No such pupil shall be withdrawn from such insti-
tution except with the consent of the proper authorities thereof or of the
Governor~~. The sums necessary for the support and instruction of such pupils
in such ~~institution~~ school, including all traveling expenses of such pupils at-
tending such ~~institution~~ school, shall be paid by the State. Nothing herein
contained shall be held to prevent the voluntary payment of the whole or any
part of such sums by the parents or guardians of such pupils.

STATEMENT OF FACTS

   This Bill will enable the department to choose the school best suited to the
educational need of the individual child. It will also enable the department to
provide services for at least the period of time that it normally takes a child to
complete secondary school rather than for just 10 years.