

MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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ONE HUNDRED AND FIFTH LEGISLATURE

Legislative Document

No. 1376

S. P. 458

In Senate March 16, 1971

Referred to Committee on Appropriations and Financial Affairs. Sent down for concurrence and ordered printed.

HARRY N. STARBRANCH, Secretary

Presented by Senator Minkowsky of Androscoggin.

STATE OF MAINE

IN THE YEAR OF OUR LORD NINETEEN HUNDRED
SEVENTY-ONE

AN ACT to Provide Assistance to Maine's Certified Home Health Agencies.

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

Appropriation. There is appropriated from the General Fund to the Pine Tree (Maine) Association of Home Health Agencies, Inc., the sum of \$200,000 for the purpose of extending coverage of home health services to medically indigent Maine citizens. The breakdown shall be as follows:

	1971-72	1972-73
PINE TREE ASSOCIATION OF HOME HEALTH AGENCIES, INC.	\$100,000	\$100,000

STATEMENT OF FACT

This is an Act intended to extend and expand the capability of Maine's home health agencies to provide professional nursing care, physical therapy, occupational therapy, speech therapy, medical social services, and home health aide services on a part-time, intermittent basis to lower-income Maine residents who do not have medical care coverage under Title XIX of the Social Security Act or who are not eligible for services under the provision of Title XVIII of the Social Security Act. Primarily, but not exclusively, these funds will be utilized to support services to chronically ill persons 55 years of age and up.

A major purpose of home health care is to reduce the incidence of unnecessary institutionalization which is costly in psychological, as well as economic

terms. Experience in Maine and elsewhere has shown that where adequately financed home health services exist, numerous patients, particularly the elderly, can be successfully maintained in the home under these physician supervised, professional and para-professional services.

The grantee agency, Pine Tree Association of Home Health Agencies, a private, non-profit body, will be responsible for administering the state funds which will, where possible, be matched with federal funds to create greater service coverage.