

MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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New Draft of: H. P. 869, L. D. 1190

ONE HUNDRED AND FIFTH LEGISLATURE

Legislative Document

No. 1741

H. P. 1327

House of Representatives, May 17, 1971

Reported by Mr. Bragdon from Committee on Appropriations and Financial Affairs and printed under Joint Rules No. 18.

BERTHA W. JOHNSON, Clerk

STATE OF MAINE

IN THE YEAR OF OUR LORD NINETEEN HUNDRED
SEVENTY-ONE

**AN ACT Appropriating Funds for the Construction of a General Activities
Building for Female Offenders on Property at Stevens School.**

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

Appropriation. There is appropriated from the Unappropriated Surplus of the General Fund to the Department of Mental Health and Corrections for the fiscal year ending June 30, 1972 the sum of 747,800 to be allocated to the Bureau of Corrections for construction of a general activities building for female offenders on property of the State of Maine at the Stevens School in Hallowell, and for land acquisition in connection therewith. The breakdown shall be as follows:

1971-72

MENTAL HEALTH AND CORRECTIONS, DEPARTMENT OF

Bureau of Corrections

Capital Expenditures

Construction of dormitory

\$325,000

Construction of general activities building

342,800

Land acquisition

80,000

\$747,800

The Commissioner of Mental Health and Corrections is authorized to negotiate for, and purchase in the name of the State of Maine, subject to the approval of the Governor and Council land located in the City of Hallowell, Kennebec County, Maine, necessary to permit the construction of the general

activities building for which funds are appropriated, such purchase price not to exceed \$80,000. The Bureau of Corrections of the Department of Mental Health and Corrections is authorized to apply for, accept and expend for the purpose of this Act, any federal matching funds which are, or may become available for such purpose.

STATEMENT OF FACT

The Department of Mental Health and Corrections pursuant to the recommendation of the Governor proposes to close the Women's Correctional Center at Skowhegan and to consolidate on one campus, currently housing the Stevens School at Hallowell, institutional facilities for the rehabilitation of female offenders. In order that this might be accomplished it is necessary to construct a general activities building and dormitory on the Stevens School property at Hallowell, such building in conjunction with the dormitory, the appropriation for the planning and design of which has been appropriated by the Legislature, chapter 63 of the private and special laws of 1971, and the balance in this Act will provide facilities sufficient for the provision of rehabilitative institutional services to Maine's female offenders, on the grounds of the Stevens School, which currently provides rehabilitative institutional services for female juvenile offenders.

Land acquisition being necessary to permit the construction of the general activities building and it being constitutionally impermissible for the Legislature to enact legislation authorizing the purchase of real estate as an emergency measure the redraft is necessary and covers land acquisition and removes this bill from the category of emergency legislation.