

MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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FIRST SPECIAL SESSION

ONE HUNDRED AND FIFTH LEGISLATURE

Legislative Document

No. 1876

S. P. 695

In Senate, January 24, 1972

Committee on Health and Institutional Services suggested.

HARRY N. STARBRANCH, Secretary

Presented by Senator Katz of Kennebec.

STATE OF MAINE

IN THE YEAR OF OUR LORD NINETEEN HUNDRED
SEVENTY-TWO

**AN ACT to Include Fees as Local Funds in the Community Mental Health
Grant-in-aid Program.**

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

R. S., T. 34, § 2055, amended. The first sentence of section 2055 of Title 34 of the Revised Statutes, as amended by chapter 288 of the public laws of 1969, is further amended to read as follows:

Such grant of money shall not exceed in any single year $\frac{3}{4}$ of the operating expenses incurred by the municipality, governmental unit or nonprofit corporation receiving the grant ~~after deducting from said expense the fees, if any, received for the services rendered~~, except that no more than $\frac{1}{2}$ of the operating expenses shall be paid from the General Fund appropriation.

STATEMENT OF FACT

Presently we may provide grant-in-aid on a matching basis in which local funds may not include the fees collected for services rendered. The community mental health centers federal matching program includes fees as local funds for matching purposes. The exclusion of fees in our law makes for confused bookkeeping in that an agency receiving both state and federal funds operates under 2 different standards, and our state law does not promote fee collection for the services which are rendered by community mental health agencies.

This law would bring our law into conformity with the equivalent federal program and would promote local efforts at collecting fees for services.

There would be no increase in expenditures as the result of this law since the amount of General Fund appropriation is fixed and has been totally expended for the last several years in this program.

The Department of Mental Health and Corrections is anxious to have this law passed as a means of promoting fee collections.