

MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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ONE HUNDRED AND SIXTH LEGISLATURE

Legislative Document

No. 521

H. P. 392

House of Representatives, January 31, 1973

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

E. LOUISE LINCOLN, Clerk

Presented by Mrs. Kilroy of Portland.

STATE OF MAINE

IN THE YEAR OF OUR LORD NINETEEN HUNDRED
SEVENTY-THREE

AN ACT Relating to Committees on Status of Women, Children and Youth, and the Aged.

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

PART A

CHILDREN AND YOUTH

Sec. 1. Governor's Committee on Children and Youth, reactivated. The Governor shall appoint a committee of 30 members consisting of one each from the House of Representatives, the Senate, the Department of Educational and Cultural Services, the Department of Health and Welfare, the Department of Mental Health and Corrections, the Bureau of Labor and Industry of the Department of Manpower Affairs, the Employment Security Commission of the Department of Manpower Affairs, the Division of Economic Opportunity of the Executive Department, the Bureau of Arts and Humanities of the Department of Educational and Cultural Services, the Department of Environmental Protection, the Department of Indian Affairs, the Maine State Police and 18 representative citizens, 7 of whom shall be youths. The Governor shall designate the chairman.

Sec. 2. Duties of the committee. The Governor's Committee on Children and Youth shall:

1. Promote and develop effective programs of education, health, recreation, welfare and public safety and correctional services for children and youth;

2. Conduct continuing programs of public information to educate the public as to problems of children and youth using such means, among others, as promotion of needed legislation and appropriations, and strengthening of public administration and personnel resources;

3. Assist and encourage governmental and private agencies and citizen groups to coordinate their efforts on behalf of children and youth;

4. Cooperate with the Federal Government and with the governments of other states and cities in programs relating to children and youth;

5. Conduct programs of research as to the needs of children and youth in order to facilitate more comprehensive and better related social planning and action;

6. Cooperate with those state departments and commissions which are concerned with the needs of and services to children and youth by making the fullest possible use of the experience and resources of those departments;

7. Provide a means for youth to express themselves and present their opinions to the Maine legislative body;

8. Provide leadership and consultant service to area committees on children and youth in the development of area programs;

9. To serve as a child advocate for any child in the State, who, because of his immaturity, legal disability, dependency, lack of parental support or lack of status in the community, needs a dedicated champion for the protection of his liberty or health when he is deprived of his home, schooling, medical care, property, rights, entitlements or benefits or is subjected to involuntary treatment that may be detrimental to his general welfare;

10. Furnish the Governor and the 107th Legislature a biennial report during the legislative session.

Sec. 3. Clerical assistance. The committee may employ clerical assistance when justified and appoint and organize subcommittees as needed to carry out its duties.

Sec. 4. Time of meetings and expenses. The committee shall meet at the place designated by and at the call of the chairman not less than 10 times each biennium. The members of the committee or authorized subcommittees shall be paid necessary expenses incurred in the performance of their duties. Such expenses shall be governed by the rules and regulations covering all state departments.

Sec. 5. Appropriation. There is appropriated from the Unappropriated Surplus of the General Fund the sum of \$5,000 for the fiscal year ending June 30, 1974 and \$5,000 for the fiscal year ending June 30, 1975 to carry out the purposes of Part A of this Act.

PART B

WOMEN

Sec. 1. Advisory Council on the Status of Women, reactivated; membership. The Governor shall appoint an Advisory Council on the Status of

Women of 17 members, hereinafter in this Part called the "council." In making appointments to the council, the Governor shall give consideration to citizens who are currently providing leadership in status of women programs on the state and local level. The Governor shall designate the chairman and vice-chairman. The various state departments shall assist the council in the furtherance of its duties.

Sec. 2. Duties and activities. The council shall act in an advisory and consultative capacity and may promote and coordinate activities designed to meet the problems of women on the state and community levels, including information on effective programs elsewhere in the State and nation.

Sec. 3. Subcommittees. The council is authorized to appoint subcommittees.

Sec. 4. Consultants and research projects. The council is authorized to employ consultants and contract for such research projects as it deems necessary.

Sec. 5. Conference. During the biennium, the council shall hold a State Governor's Conference on the Status of Women, or hold regional conferences.

Sec. 6. Report. The council shall make a report to the Governor concerning the work and interests of the council at the end of the biennium.

Sec. 7. Termination of appointment. The Governor may terminate the appointment of any member of the council for good and just cause and the reason for the termination of each appointment shall be communicated to each member of the council.

Sec. 8. Meetings. The council shall meet at the call of the chairman and not less than 3 times during each year. Members shall serve without compensation but shall be reimbursed for necessary expenses incurred in work of the council at the prevalent state rates.

Sec. 9. Appropriation. There is appropriated from the Unappropriated Surplus of the General Fund the sum of \$2,210 for the fiscal year ending June 30, 1974 and the sum of \$2,610 for the fiscal year ending June 30, 1975 to the Governor's Advisory Council on the Status of Women, to carry out the purposes of Part B of this Act.

PART C

AGING

Sec. 1. Committee on Aging; membership. The Governor, with the advice and consent of the Council, shall appoint a Committee on Aging of 14 members, hereinafter in this Part called the "committee," to consist of 2 members from the Legislature, one from the House of Representatives and one from the Senate. Twelve members shall be citizens of the State who have an interest in and knowledge of the problems of the aging population. In making appointments to the committee, the Governor shall give consideration to citizens who are currently providing leadership in senior citizen programs on the state and local level and give consideration also to the diverse problems

of the aging by appointing people from a number of fields such as medicine, nursing, law, employment, social welfare, mental health, education, housing and business. Individuals shall be from private and public agencies and voluntary organizations. The Governor shall designate the chairman. The various state departments shall assist the committee in the furtherance of its duties.

Sec. 2. Duties and activities. The committee shall act in an advisory and consultative capacity and may promote, assist and coordinate activities designed to meet the problems of the aging on the state and community levels, including information on effective programs elsewhere in the State or nation.

Sec. 3. Staff. The committee is authorized to employ, under the Personnel Law, such staff as is necessary to carry out its objectives.

Sec. 4. Subcommittees. The committee is authorized to appoint subcommittees.

Sec. 5. Consultants and research projects. The committee is authorized to employ consultants and contract for such research projects as it deems necessary.

Sec. 6. Maine Three-Quarter Century Club. The committee shall be responsible for sponsoring the Maine Three-Quarter Century Club's annual meeting, as requested by the Governor.

Sec. 7. Conference. During the biennium, the committee shall hold a State Governor's Conference on Aging, or hold regional conferences.

Sec. 8. Report. The committee shall make a report to the Governor and the 107th Legislature concerning the work and interests of the committee for the preceding biennium.

Sec. 9. Federal programs and funds. The committee shall be the designated state agency to handle all programs of the Federal Government relating to the aging requiring actions within the State which are not the specific responsibility of another state agency under the provisions of federal or state law. Authority is conferred on the committee to accept and use any funds in accordance with established budgetary procedures which might become available pursuant to the purposes set out herein.

Sec. 10. Grants and gifts. The committee may receive on its own behalf or on behalf of the State any grants or gifts and accept same.

Sec. 11. Termination of appointment. The Governor may terminate the appointment of any member of the committee for good and just cause and the reason for the termination of each appointment shall be communicated to each member of the committee.

Sec. 12. Meetings. The committee shall meet at the call of the chairman, and not less than 6 times during the biennium. Members will be reimbursed for expenses incurred in work of the committee at the prevalent state rates.

Sec. 13. Appropriation. There is appropriated from the Unappropriated Surplus of the General Fund the sum of \$4,000 for the fiscal year ending June

30, 1974 and the sum of \$4,000 for the fiscal year ending June 30, 1975 to the Committee on Aging to carry out the purposes of Part C of this Act.

STATEMENT OF FACT

This bill is intended to continue the activities of the Committees on Status of Women, Children and Youth, and the Aged during the 1974-1975 biennium.