

# MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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ONE HUNDRED AND SIXTH LEGISLATURE

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Legislative Document

No. 960

H. P. 747

House of Representatives, February 20, 1973

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

E. LOUISE LINCOLN, Clerk

Presented by Mrs. Lewis of Auburn.

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STATE OF MAINE

IN THE YEAR OF OUR LORD NINETEEN HUNDRED  
SEVENTY-THREE

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**AN ACT to Finance Medical Care for the Indigent Residents of Maine.**

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

**Appropriation.** There is appropriated to the Department of Health and Welfare from the General Fund the sum of \$1,891,839 to provide medical care to paupers of the State. The breakdown shall be as follows:

	1973-74	1974-75
HEALTH AND WELFARE, DEPARTMENT OF		
Personal Services	(4) \$ 88,000	(4) \$100,000
All Other	798,971	878,868
Capital Expenditures	13,000	13,000
	<hr/>	<hr/>
	\$899,971	\$991,868

Expenditure of this appropriation shall expand coverage of the State's medical care to include paupers as well as those on public assistance. Such coverage will include in-patient hospital services as well as physician's services.

STATEMENT OF FACT

In 1972, there were approximately 9,000 people who received medical care through general assistance. An imbalance in medical costs results. A town in the southern part of the State, with a population of approximately 2,000 people, was required to pay a \$23,000 medical bill for one indigent. To spread the cost equitably among all the taxpayers of the State rather than any one small group is the purpose of this legislation.