

MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

The following document is provided by the
LAW AND LEGISLATIVE DIGITAL LIBRARY
at the Maine State Law and Legislative Reference Library
<http://legislature.maine.gov/lawlib>



Reproduced from scanned originals with text recognition applied
(searchable text may contain some errors and/or omissions)

ONE HUNDRED AND SEVENTH LEGISLATURE

Legislative Document

No. 126

H. P. 103

House of Representatives, January 8, 1975

Referred to Committee on State Government. Sent up for concurrence and ordered printed.

EDWIN H. PERT, Clerk

Presented by Mrs. Goodwin of Bath.

STATE OF MAINE

IN THE YEAR OF OUR LORD NINETEEN HUNDRED
SEVENTY-FIVE

AN ACT Amending the Powers and Duties of the Maine Committee on
Aging to Include the Inspection of Nursing Homes.

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

22 MRSA, § 5112, sub-§ 5, as enacted by PL 1973, c. 793, § 11, is amended by adding at the end 2 new sentences to read:

This shall include the power to enter onto the premises of any residential facility where people are domiciled which is licensed according to section 5, in order to evaluate the compliance of said facility with all state and federal standards, rules and regulations, and the committee shall report such findings to the commissioner at least quarterly and to the Governor and Legislature at least annually. Such findings shall be available to the public.

STATEMENT OF FACT

The legislation creating a permanent Maine Committee on Aging charged it with the responsibility to serve as an advocate on behalf of older people and as an ombudsman on behalf of individual citizens, as well as older people as a class, in matters under the jurisdiction of Maine State Government. The committee was given the authority to review and evaluate on a continuing basis state and federal policies for the purpose of determining their value and impact on the lives of older people. The committee also has the duty to inform the public and to develop a firm understanding by the public of the current status of the survival of Maine's elderly.

The 6,000 patients in Maine nursing homes are the most neglected and underrepresented segment of our elderly population. In order to fulfill its responsibilities to these people, the committee requests specific statutory authority to inspect nursing homes and boarding homes and to report its findings to the public.