

MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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ONE HUNDRED AND SEVENTH LEGISLATURE

Legislative Document

No. 593

H. P. 473

House of Representatives, February 11, 1975

Referred to the Committee on Health and Institutional Services. Sent up for concurrence and ordered printed.

EDWIN H. PERT, Clerk

Presented by Mr. Goodwin of South Berwick.

STATE OF MAINE

IN THE YEAR OF OUR LORD NINETEEN HUNDRED
SEVENTY-FIVE

AN ACT Relating to State-wide Correctional Program Improvement.

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

Sec. 1. 34 MRSA c. 62-A is enacted to read:

CHAPTER 62-A

STATE WIDE CORRECTIONAL PROGRAM IMPROVEMENT

§ 535. Purpose

The purpose of this chapter is to enable the development, expansion and improvement of correctional programs throughout the State and to encourage participation in such programs by persons, unincorporated associations, charitable nonstock corporations, local and county governmental units and state agencies.

§ 536. Powers

The department, through the Bureau of Corrections, may provide or assist in the provision of correctional services throughout the State and for that purpose may cooperate with persons, unincorporated associations, charitable nonstock corporations, municipalities and other governmental units and other state agencies. The department shall promulgate and enforce rules and standards with respect to the administration of all services delivered and funded under this chapter.

Correctional services programs authorized under this chapter to be developed, expanded or improved through the provision of direct services by the department or through funding from the department to persons and other

entities for the provision of such services relating to all facets of rehabilitation and community life adjustment may include, but shall not be limited to, services to the courts, predelinquency services, diversionary services, pre-release and halfway house services, and after-care and post-release services. The department may receive and use for the purposes of this chapter money appropriated by the State, grants from the United States Government and funds from any other sources.

The department may make grants of funds to any person or entity described in this section applying therefor to be used in the management and delivery of correctional services programs approved, or approved and supervised, by the department. When necessary to the provision of direct services under this chapter, the department, by contract, may purchase professional and other specialized services.

§ 537. Special revenue account—Correctional Program Improvement Fund

All funds appropriated for the purposes of this chapter and all grants and other funds received by the department for the purposes of this chapter shall be credited to a special revenue account in the department to be known as the Correctional Program Improvement Fund. Any state funds appropriated to this special revenue account unexpended at the end of the fiscal year for which such funds are appropriated shall not lapse but shall carry forward into subsequent fiscal years to be expended for the purposes of this chapter.

Sec. 2. Appropriation. There is appropriated from the General Fund to the Department of Mental Health and Corrections the sum of \$1,000,000 to carry out the purposes of this Act. The breakdown shall be as follows:

	1975-76	1976-77
MENTAL HEALTH AND CORRECTIONS, DEPARTMENT OF		
Bureau of Corrections		
All Other	\$500,000	\$500,000

STATEMENT OF FACT

This Act permits the Department of Mental Health and Corrections, through the Bureau of Corrections, to provide or to purchase services which will improve all types of rehabilitation and community life adjustment programs. The capability for implementing diversified and innovative programs and services has been seriously lacking, particularly as they relate to juvenile and youthful offenders. This Act also permits a grant-in-aid program under the Bureau of Corrections, permitting the provision of services such as a privately-operated halfway house approved and funded or partially funded by the Bureau of Corrections. This Act assures more opportunity for the successful treatment and rehabilitation of offenders.