

MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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ONE HUNDRED AND SEVENTH LEGISLATURE

Legislative Document

No. 1158

H. P. 938

House of Representatives, March 20, 1975

Referred to the Committee on Human Resources. Sent up for concurrence and ordered printed.

EDWIN H. PERT, Clerk

Presented by Mr. Cooney of Sabattus.

STATE OF MAINE

IN THE YEAR OF OUR LORD NINETEEN HUNDRED
SEVENTY-FIVE

**AN ACT Concerning Reports to Municipal Overseers of the Poor by
State Agencies Delivering Human Services.**

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

22 MRSA § 4496-A is enacted to read:

§ 4496-A. Reports of state agencies to overseers of the poor

Any state agency furnishing human services to persons in a municipality shall, upon request by the municipal overseer of the poor of that municipality, furnish quarterly reports to the municipal overseer on the kinds and quantity of services being furnished to persons in that municipality and the persons to whom these services are being furnished.

STATEMENT OF FACT

There is no mechanism or requirement for the delivery of human services to be reported to the towns. Towns traditionally had the functional responsibility for the care of their people, but had limited funds to carry out this responsibility. Now, federal, state and intermediate "nonprofit" administrative organizations have 100 times the funds available to the towns and bypass the towns to deliver the services.

The human service delivery system includes a number of federal sources of funds channeled through a complex of state agencies and nonprofit agencies and finally, to the individuals or families of the State of Maine. The

value of these services exceeds \$100 per capita. There is no mechanism or requirement for the coordination of these services at the local level.

There is a need first for town knowledge, later for town coordination and finally, for town control over many of these services. This bill addresses only a part of the first need, getting reports to the town for their knowledge.