

MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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ONE HUNDRED AND SEVENTH LEGISLATURE

Legislative Document

No. 1538

H. P. 1231

House of Representatives, April 1, 1975

Speaker laid before the House and Mr. Speaker referred to the Committee on Appropriations and Financial Affairs. Sent up for concurrence and ordered printed.

EDWIN H. PERT, Clerk

Presented by Mr. Tierney of Durham.

STATE OF MAINE

IN THE YEAR OF OUR LORD NINETEEN HUNDRED
SEVENTY-FIVE

AN ACT Appropriating Funds to the Department of Mental Health and Corrections for the Establishment of a Short Term Adolescent Inpatient Care Program.

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

Department of Mental Health and Corrections; appropriation. There is appropriated from the General Fund to the Department of Mental Health and Corrections the sum of \$448,000 for the fiscal years from July 1, 1975 to June 30, 1976 and from July 1, 1976 to June 30, 1977 to provide for the establishment and operation of a short term adolescent inpatient care program by Tri-County Mental Health Services of Lewiston.

The sum of money shall be expended to establish and operate a short stay unit serving children and adolescents between 6 and 17 and their families. The unit and program shall be under the direction of Tri-County Mental Health Services of Lewiston, and shall have clinical direction by a child psychiatrist. The program shall provide inpatient and outpatient services, professional staffing and training programs.

Any unexpended balance shall not lapse but shall remain a continuous carrying account until June 30, 1978. The breakdown shall be as follows:

	1975-76	1976-77
MENTAL HEALTH AND CORRECTIONS, DEPARTMENT OF		
Community Mental Health Services		
All Other	\$224,000	\$224,000

STATEMENT OF FACT

Presently a number of disturbed adolescent patients are residents at Augusta Mental Health Institute because no other appropriate facility can be found for them. These patients need short term inpatient care combined with outpatient care and family counseling. Current state facilities concentrating on long term care for severely disturbed children are not appropriate for such patients, and neither is release into the general community without counseling or supervision.

This appropriation will allow the establishment and operation of a short term adolescent and child inpatient care program by Tri-County Mental Health Services of Lewiston to meet this problem. The program will provide inpatient and outpatient services, professional staffing, training programs and family counseling, using various methods of treatment. The staff will include a child psychiatrist-clinical director, child psychologist Ph.D., psychiatric nurses, licensed practical nurses, child care worker, occupational therapist (part-time), recreational therapist (part-time, secretary-medical transcriber, cook, cook's helper and janitor. The administrative costs will also be provided for under this appropriation.