

MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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(EMERGENCY)

ONE HUNDRED AND EIGHTH LEGISLATURE

Legislative Document

No. 95

S. P. 49

In Senate, January 18, 1977
Referred to the Committee on Appropriations and Financial Affairs. Sent
down for concurrence and ordered printed.

MAY M. ROSS, Secretary

Presented by Senator Huber of Cumberland.

STATE OF MAINE

IN THE YEAR OF OUR LORD NINETEEN HUNDRED
SEVENTY-SEVEN

**AN ACT to Allocate Money from Title II of the Public Works Employment
Act of 1976 for the Expenditure of State Government for the Fiscal Year
Ending June 30, 1977.**

Emergency preamble. Whereas, Acts and resolves enacted by the Legis-
lature do not become effective until 90 days after adjournment unless enacted
as emergencies ; and

Whereas, the 90-day period may not terminate until after the beginning of
the next fiscal year ; and

Whereas, certain obligations and expenses incident to the Federal Anti-
Recession Fiscal Assistance Funds will become due and payable immediately ;
and

Whereas, in the judgment of the Legislature, these facts create an emer-
gency within the meaning of the Constitution of Maine and require the
following legislation as immediately necessary for the preservation of the
public peace, health and safety ; now, therefore,

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

Sec. 1. Allocation of Federal Anti-Recession Fiscal Assistance Funds.
Income to the fund shall be segregated, apportioned and expended as follows :

DEPARTMENT OF HUMAN SERVICES

\$1,250,000

Components of the recommended program will maintain and strengthen a
system that will be responsive to community needs to combat the neglect and

abuse of children. The system will recognize and respond to all children determined to be in a risk situation. The major objective will be the rehabilitation of the family unit to allow the family to remain intact.

The major components include funds to maintain caseload standards of 25 cases per worker, provide full-time 24 hour service and maintain a projected caseload of 5,000 families; and, funds to develop a ratio of one worker for each 30 children placed in substitute care; and, funds for community resources.

Provision of these resources will allow the Department of Human Services to promote an active program with the intent of reducing to the lowest possible extent child abuse and neglect in the State of Maine. It should be noted that the resources will be used only as needed and that staffing patterns will be maintained on prescribed formulas. Staff will not be added and community contracts will not be developed until a demonstrated need is documented. These resources will allow the department to bring up the system in a reasonable and responsible manner.

DEPARTMENT OF MENTAL HEALTH AND CORRECTIONS

\$1,100,000

The Mental Retardation Component will address the area of implementation of Public Guardianship; Group Home Development; Activity Programs; Home Services and Individual Client Planning and Evaluations. The requested \$250,000 will be used for community based group homes; day activity services in Sheltered Workshops and Adult Activity Centers; and the utilization of Child Development Home Trainers; provide 2 evaluation teams to review, screen and develop individual treatment programs for the clients of Pineland Center who are currently residing in community placements, but are under the supervision and responsibility of Pineland Center. Finally, the funds requested will allow the Department of Mental Health and Corrections to maintain its obligations of providing for public guardianship of 450 mentally retarded individuals determined by the Probate Court to be in need of financial and guardianship services.

The Community Mental Health Development Component will allow the Department of Mental Health and Corrections to provide for the continuation of community based services to mentally ill citizens in 6 mental health catchment areas. These funds will permit the maintenance of mentally ill people in their home communities and help keep families intact. This results in decreased admissions to our State and Mental Health facilities. When admission is required at state facilities, the stay is shorter since community based services are available. The moneys will provide for maintenance of mental health services including crisis intervention, out-patient and short term in-patient services, consultation and education, partial hospitalization, day treatment and aftercare. The total amount requested is \$765,000.

The department's request for \$85,000 will provide for 10 additional security officers at the Maine State Prison, a maximum security facility, which has had a marked increase in inmate population. The requested security person-

nel will provide proper security protection and supervision of the inmates at the Maine State Prison.

PUBLIC UTILITIES COMMISSION \$150,000

Provide for the maintenance of the existing level of services and enhancement of professional staff to address pending rate cases as evidenced by the current PUC docket. Funds will also allow for updating of uniform systems of accounts and filing requirements. Funds will allow for field inspections and audits that will improve the capability of the agency to be more responsive to the demands of both the utilities and the rate payers.

DEPARTMENT OF PERSONNEL \$90,000

Provide for more efficient and effective department operation through the elimination of backlogs and the development of functional job analysis system of classification to address the complete implementation of upgraded classification and performance appraisal systems. Funds will allow final implementation of computerization of State Personnel System.

DEPARTMENT OF CONSERVATION \$165,000

Bureau of Parks and Recreation

Funds will provide deferred repairs and maintenance to a variety of buildings and other structures at 12 state parks and historical sites.

DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION \$135,000

Funds will provide for cleaning and painting of structural steel on bridges maintained by the department.

DEPARTMENT OF FINANCE AND ADMINISTRATION \$225,000

Bureau of Public Improvements

Funds will provide for winterization and energy conservation projects within the State House Complex.

DEPARTMENT OF ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION \$35,000

Funds will provide direct support and technical assistance to municipalities in fulfilling requirements of Solid Waste Management Regulations.

Sec. 2. Allotments required. Upon receipt of allotments duly approved by the Governor based upon work programs submitted to the State Budget Officer, the State Controller shall authorize expenditure of these allocations, together with expenditures for other purposes necessary to the conduct of State Government on the basis of such allotments and not otherwise.

Sec. 3. Interest credited to the fund. Notwithstanding any other legal provision, interest earned by this fund shall be credited to this fund.

Sec. 4. State requirements shall be followed. Accounting and budgeting requirements of the fund shall conform to those applicable to the expenditure of the State's own revenue.

Sec. 5. Federal requirements shall be followed. Provisions of federal laws and regulations governing the use of these funds shall be complied with. In the event that an authorization for additional funds occurs when the Legislature is not in session the Governor shall issue an order which recognizes the receipt of the funds and indicates that they will be allocated as expeditiously as possible.

Sec. 6. Legislative intent. It is the intent of the Legislature that these funds shall be used for the maintenance of the highest priority basic services and jobs. The Governor may adjust the allocation of funds within reasonable limits as required by either a change in the amount of available funds or an adjustment in program needs. He shall immediately notify the Legislative Finance Officer of such adjustment.

Sec. 7. Balances. Any balances at June 30, 1977 shall not lapse but shall be a continuous carrying account until the purposes of this Act have been accomplished.

Emergency clause. In view of the emergency cited in the preamble, this Act shall take effect when approved.

STATEMENT OF FACT

This Act allocates \$3,150,000 of anticipated Federal Anti-Recession Funds estimated to become available from Title II of the Public Works Employment Act of 1976. The elements recommended are the result of a screening process of submissions from all state agencies keeping in mind the basic federal requirements of maintenance of levels of public employment and of basic services and several other criteria including impact on citizens and municipalities directly, long term value for short term expenditures and limited program objectives such that permanent funding will not be required or can be continued within existing proposed and available funds. Supporting and detailed documentation will be available to the Legislature as required.