

# ONE HUNDRED AND EIGHTH LEGISLATURE

## Legislative Document

No. 339

EDWIN H. PERT, Clerk

H. P. 271 House of Representatives, February 9, 1977 Referred to the Committee on Health and Institutional Services. Sent up for concurrence and ordered printed.

Presented by Mrs. Gill of South Portland.

## STATE OF MAINE

### IN THE YEAR OF OUR LORD NINETEEN HUNDRED SEVENTY-SEVEN

#### AN ACT to Raise the Age Distinguishing Children's Facilities from Adult Facilities from 16 Years of Age to 18 Years of Age.

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

Sec. 1. 22 MRSA § 7901, sub-§ 2, as enacted by PL 1975, c. 719, § 6, is amended to read:

2. Resident. The word "resident," as used in this subtitle, shall mean any aged, blind, mentally ill, mentally retarded or other person  $\frac{16}{16}$  18 years of age or older who is not related by blood or marriage to the owner or person in charge of the boarding care facility in which the resident lives.

Sec. 2. 22 MRSA § 8101, 1st ¶, as enacted by PL 1975, c. 719, § 6, is amended to read:

As used in this subtitle, the term "children's home" shall mean a house or other place maintained wholly or partly for the purpose of boarding and caring for one or more children under the age of  $\pm 6$  18.

#### STATEMENT OF FACT

The purpose of this bill is to raise the age distinguishing children's facilities from adult facilities from 16 years of age to 18 years of age. At the present time, many facilities caring for individuals 16 and 17 years of age are not required by law to be licensed. This fact not only leaves this group of individuals vulnerable but also creates severe funding problems when the funding source requires State licensure.