

MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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(EMERGENCY)

ONE HUNDRED AND EIGHTH LEGISLATURE

Legislative Document

No. 689

H. P. 564

House of Representatives, March 2, 1977

Referred to Committee on Appropriations and Financial Affairs. Sent up for concurrence and ordered printed.

EDWIN H. PERT, Clerk

Presented by Mr. Kelleher of Bangor.

Cosponsor: Ms. Goodwin of Bath.

STATE OF MAINE

IN THE YEAR OF OUR LORD NINETEEN HUNDRED
SEVENTY-SEVEN

AN ACT Appropriating Funds for Current Services of the Maine Human Services Council for the Fiscal Years Ending June 30, 1978 and June 30, 1979.

Emergency preamble. Whereas, Acts of the Legislature do not become effective until 90 days after adjournment of the Legislature 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 operation of the Maine Human Services Council will become due and payable immediately after July 1, 1977; and

Whereas, in the judgment of the Legislature, these facts create an emergency 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:

Appropriation. There is appropriated from the General Fund to the Department of Human Services, Maine Human Services Council, the sum of \$65,409 to carry out the purposes of Title 22, chapter 1475 and the purposes of this Act. Any balance of funds appropriated to the Human Services Council remaining at the end of a fiscal year shall not lapse but shall be carried forward from year to year to be expended for the same purpose. The State of Maine, Executive Department, shall take any and all reasonable steps to provide on a high priority basis, federal funds from Title XX of the United

States Social Security Act, as amended, or from other federal sources, to match, at the rate of at least 75% federal to 25% nonfederal, any and all funds appropriated herein. The breakdown shall be as follows:

	1977-78	1978-79
HUMAN SERVICES, DEPARTMENT OF		
Maine Human Services Council		
Personal Services	(1) \$20,075	(1) \$20,145
All Other	12,020	13,169
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Total	\$32,095	\$33,314

Provides funds to perform statutory powers and duties of the Human Services Council, including expenditures for expenses of Human Services Council members, travel, professional and secretarial salaries and other expenses.

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

STATEMENT OF FACT

The Maine Human Services Council carries out a broad statutory mandate to assist the Executive and Legislative Branches of State Government and the public-at-large on human service activities, including state and federal plans, policies, programs and contracts or grants, except those relating to older people. The Human Services Council, which is solely advisory, takes action in the form of recommending budgetary, policy or legislative proposals. To develop such proposals the Human Services Council:

1. Reviews the fiscal activities relating to human services of state, federal and community agencies, including proposed budgets, allocations, expenditures and transfer of funds, particularly those relating to the Department of Human Services and the Department of Mental Health and Corrections;
2. Evaluates and monitors the priorities, objectives and results and administrative policies and practices of human services programs.
3. Reviews \$17,000,000 annually in state agency contracts or agreements for services such as alcoholism, day care, group homes, homemakers, mental health, mental retardation and transportation. Serving as the technical review committee, required by statute, for Title XX of the United States Social Security Act and the Maine Priority Social Services Act, the Human Services Council analyzes contracts providing service to children, youth, juveniles and adults under age 65.

4. Holds community hearings to obtain input from citizens, consumers and professionals regarding the effectiveness of and need for human services and provides forums for the public-at-large to make recommendations to or receive information from the State or National Government.

5. Sponsors special indepth task force studies of specific, critical human service issues. In 1976 the Human Services Council established services to children as a priority and conducted studies relating to the Title XX Social Services Plan for fiscal year 1977-78, income supplementation, housing and child abuse and neglect.

This bill will provide for the continuation of current services of the Human Services Council for the next 2 fiscal years.

Federal funds are available to match this appropriation.

In fiscal years 1975-76 and 1976-77 respectively, the Legislature approved \$27,586 and \$28,100 as appropriations for the Human Services Council.