

# MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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ONE HUNDRED AND EIGHTH LEGISLATURE

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Legislative Document

No. 956

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H. P. 753

House of Representatives, March 10, 1977

On Motion of Mr. Goodwin of South Berwick referred to the Committee on Health and Institutional Services. Sent up for concurrence and ordered printed.

EDWIN H. PERT, Clerk

Presented by Mr. Tarbell of Bangor.

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STATE OF MAINE

IN THE YEAR OF OUR LORD NINETEEN HUNDRED  
SEVENTY-SEVEN

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AN ACT to Create a Maximum Security Facility for Those Adjudged not  
Guilty of a Crime by Reason of Insanity.

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

Sec. 1. 34 MRSA § 2106 is enacted to read:

§ 2106. Operation of a Forensic Mental Health Unit

The Commissioner of Mental Health and Corrections shall cause to be operated as part of the Bangor Mental Health Institute a unit physically designed and staffed to provide maximum security for the people of this State and for the patients being treated therein. Such unit shall serve as a setting for the diagnosis, observation, care and treatment of all persons committed to the custody of the commissioner, pursuant to Title 15, sections 101, 103 or 105 and Title 17-A, section 1251, subsection 2, and may serve as a setting for the diagnosis, observation, care and treatment of any person admitted to the institute pursuant to chapter 191.

Sec. 2. Appropriation. There is appropriated from the General Fund to Bangor Mental Health Institute, Department of Mental Health and Corrections, the sum of \$250,000 in order to provide for necessary expenditures in connection with the establishment and operation of a Forensic Mental Health Unit in the fiscal year ending June 30, 1978, as set forth in Section 1 of this Act. The breakdown shall be as follows:

MENTAL HEALTH AND CORRECTIONS,  
DEPARTMENT OF  
Bangor Mental Health Institute  
All Other

1977-78

\$250,000

## STATEMENT OF FACT

The purpose of this bill is to create a maximum security unit at Bangor Mental Health Institute for those dangerously violent patients who pose a threat to the welfare of other patients, staff and the general public.