

# MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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ONE HUNDRED AND EIGHTH LEGISLATURE

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Legislative Document

No. 976

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S. P. 306

In Senate, March 17, 1977

Referred to the Committee on Health and Institutional Services. Sent down for concurrence and ordered printed.

MAY M. ROSS, Secretary

Presented by Senator Katz of Kennebec.

Cosponsors: Senator Pierce of Kennebec, Senator Hichens of York.

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STATE OF MAINE

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IN THE YEAR OF OUR LORD NINETEEN HUNDRED  
SEVENTY-SEVEN

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**AN ACT to Provide for the Prevention of Alcohol Abuse.**

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

Sec. 1. 22 MRSA § 7125 is enacted to read:

§ 7125. Alcohol abuse education and prevention

The purpose of this section is to encourage certain municipalities to initiate programs to reduce the harm caused to citizens by the abuse of alcohol. Community programs shall be encouraged as follows.

1. **Authorization.** The department, through the Office of Alcoholism and Drug Abuse Prevention, is authorized to approve local demonstration projects for alcohol abuse prevention. The approval of any project shall be based on, among other factors, evidence that citizens broadly representative of the general public within the municipality have indicated, through a plan submitted to the department, a strong commitment to coordinate their efforts in carrying out the project.

2. **Assistance.** The Office of Alcoholism and Drug Abuse Prevention is authorized to assist municipalities in preparing proposals for local projects.

3. **Funds.** The department is authorized to accept and expend funds from any source to provide assistance as described in subsection 2 and continuing support through financial grants for any project approved under this section.

4. **Report.** The director shall present an interim report to the First Regular Session of the 109th Legislature and a final report to the First Regular Session of the 110th Legislature. These reports shall include a description of any projects initiated or supported under this section, an assessment of the

effect of these projects on the problems of alcohol abuse prevention within the municipalities which they serve and a full account of all funds received and expended under this section.

5. **Cooperation.** The Office of Alcoholism and Drug Abuse Prevention is directed to consult regularly with the Commissioner of Educational and Cultural Services and the Director of the Health Education Resource Center at the University of Maine at Farmington in carrying out the purposes of this section.

**Sec. 2. Appropriation.** There is appropriated from the General Fund to the Department of Human Services, Office of Alcoholism and Drug Abuse Prevention, the sum of \$499,139. The breakdown shall be as follows:

	1977-78		1978-79
HUMAN SERVICES, DEPARTMENT OF			
Office of Alcoholism and Drug Abuse Prevention			
Personal Services	(6) \$ 40,488	(6)	\$ 96,400
All Other	103,051		241,200
Capital Expenditures	18,000		—
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	\$161,539		\$337,600

#### STATEMENT OF FACT

The purpose of this bill is to authorize the Department of Human Services, through the Office of Alcoholism and Drug Abuse Prevention, to encourage and provide financial support to local demonstration projects to prevent alcohol abuse.

Any projects approved under this section shall involve all segments of the municipality where the project is located. This requirement is intended to assure a coordinated approach to alcohol abuse prevention at the municipal level.

The Education Commission of the States has recently completed a 3-year study which recommends a course of action such as is reflected in this bill. Maine is one of the states identified for financial and technical assistance by the Education Commission of the States and it is therefore anticipated that programs authorized as the result of this bill would be supported through funds from the Education Commission of the States.

This bill requires an interim report to the Legislature evaluating the effect of any projects approved. If acceptable results are not produced, it is the intent of the bill that these projects should not continue to receive funding.