

MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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ONE HUNDRED AND EIGHTH LEGISLATURE

Legislative Document

No. 1673

H. P. 1447

House of Representatives, April 21, 1977

Referred to the Committee on Health and Institutional Services. Sent up for concurrence and 2,000 ordered printed.

EDWIN H. PERT, Clerk

Presented by Mr. Brenerman of Portland.

STATE OF MAINE

IN THE YEAR OF OUR LORD NINETEEN HUNDRED
SEVENTY-SEVEN

AN ACT to Require the Maine Human Services Council to Hold Public Hearings on Maine's Title XX Plan of Social Services.

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

22 MRSA § 5317 is enacted to read:

§ 5317. Title XX of the Federal Social Security Act

1. Hearings required. By no later than 60 days before the State's services plan is published pursuant to the requirements of federal law and regulations in Title XX of the Social Security Act, as amended, the council shall hold public hearings in at least 4 different regions of the State.

2. Purpose. The council shall conduct each public hearing for the purpose of collecting at least the following information:

A. The types of services needed;

B. The categories of persons with the greatest need for the services;

C. The public and private groups and agencies willing and able to deliver these services;

D. Efforts and plans among various groups and agencies to coordinate the services; and

E. Methods of state reimbursement preferred by the groups and agencies providing the services.

3. Notice of hearing. Notice of each public hearing shall be published at least once within 14 to 30 days before the hearing, in at least 2 newspapers or

journals of general circulation adequate to provide reasonable notice to Title XX clients, public and private groups and agencies, public officials and the general public.

For the purposes of this section "notice" shall mean a display advertisement published within the main news section of a newspaper. Advertisements placed in the legal or classified sections of a newspaper do not meet this requirement.

4. Recommendations. By no later than 30 days before the state's services plans is published pursuant to the requirements of federal law and regulations in Title XX of the Social Security Act, as amended, the council shall make its recommendations, including a summary of the information collected pursuant to subsection 2, to the commissioner.

STATEMENT OF FACT

The purpose of this bill is to provide for increased input from people around the State into the Title XX planning process. The bill requires the Maine Human Services Council to hold public hearings in at least 4 areas of the State.