

MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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ONE HUNDRED AND EIGHTH LEGISLATURE

Legislative Document

No. 1727

H. P. 1470

House of Representatives, April 27, 1977

Speaker laid before the House and 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 Mrs. Najarian of Portland.

STATE OF MAINE

IN THE YEAR OF OUR LORD NINETEEN HUNDRED
SEVENTY-SEVEN

**AN ACT to Abolish the Mental Health and Mental Retardation
Improvement Fund.**

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

Sec. 1. 22 MRSA § 3172-A, as enacted by PL 1975, c. 757, § 1, is repealed.

Sec. 2. 22 MRSA § 3172-B is enacted to read:

§ 3172-B. Deposit in General Fund

All moneys received by the Department of Mental Health and Corrections which fall under the definition of aid as contained in section 3172, and which are generated by services rendered at any of the mental health and mental retardation institutions operated by that department, shall be deposited in the General Fund.

Sec. 3. Effective date. This Act shall become effective July 1, 1978.

STATEMENT OF FACT

Presently, more than \$5,000,000 is received from the Federal Government for services provided to patients in the state's mental health and mental retardation institutions. This money is credited to the Mental Health and Mental Retardation Improvement Fund. The money is then divided between the Department of Mental Health and Corrections and the Department of Human Services and expended. The Legislature presently does not appropriate or actively oversee the expenditure of the money.

This bill would abolish the Mental Health and Mental Retardation Improvement Fund and require that all moneys received for services provided at institutions should be deposited in the General Fund. The Legislature would then appropriate these moneys on the basis of departmental needs.