

MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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FIRST REGULAR SESSION

ONE HUNDRED AND NINTH LEGISLATURE

Legislative Document

No. 1011

H. P. 808

House of Representatives, March 5, 1979

On Motion of Mrs. Prescott of Hampden, referred to the Committee on Health and Institutional Services. Sent up for concurrence and ordered printed.

EDWIN H. PERT, Clerk

Presented by Mrs. Prescott of Hampden.

Cosponsors: Mr. Kelleher of Bangor, Mr. Birt of East Millinocket and Mr. Soulas of Bangor.

STATE OF MAINE

IN THE YEAR OF OUR LORD NINETEEN HUNDRED
SEVENTY-NINE

RESOLVE, Relating to the Provision of Mental Health Services for Children and Families.

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

Prototype Mental Health Planning Region established. Resolved: That there is established in the State of Maine a Prototype Mental Health Planning Region for children and families encompassing Piscataquis, Penobscot, Hancock and Washington Counties, coinciding with the Department of Human Services Region IV. Within this mental health planning region for children and families, hereinafter known as the "region," a Mental Health Services Committee (MHSC) shall be established or designated by the Interdepartmental Coordinating Committee; and be it further

Resolved: That the Mental Health Services Committee shall have not less than 15 nor more than 25 members, representing professional mental health service providing agencies and nonprofessional mental health consumers. Consumer representation shall equal or exceed 2/3 of the committee membership. Committee membership, organization and operational procedures shall be developed by the Interdepartmental Coordinating Committee after consultation with appropriate persons and agencies within the region. Funds required for the

operation of the Mental Health Services Committee may be provided from the 3 departments comprising the Interdepartmental Coordinating Committee under such guidelines or terms as the Interdepartmental Coordinating Committee may specify; and be it further

Resolved: That the Mental Health Services Committee shall concentrate on, though not necessarily be limited to, the following responsibilities within the region:

1. An understanding of the mental health needs of children ages 0-20 years and their families;
2. The development of standardized ways to collect data or assess needs related to the mental health of children and their families;
3. An identification of gaps or weaknesses in the delivery of mental health services to children and families;
4. Prioritization of efforts to expand, increase or make more effective the provision of mental health services to children and families;
5. The education of the general public on issues related to the mental health of children and families;
6. Monitoring of existing or developed programs related to the mental health of children and families; and
7. Appropriate, regular evaluation of such programs and the general publication of such evaluations; and be it further

Resolved: That within the region, the Aroostook Mental Health Center, the Counseling Center and the Child Development Center shall constitute the primary mental health evaluation resources for children and their families from within the region and the Homestead School and St. Michael's Home shall constitute the primary residential treatment centers for children from within the region. The proposed Children and Adolescent Development Program of the Eastern Maine Medical Center and the Bangor Mental Health Institute shall constitute the primary inpatient psychiatric diagnosis and evaluation facility for children from within the region; and be it further

Resolved: That there is appropriated from the General Fund \$500,000 for 1979-80 and \$250,000 for 1980-81 to the All Other account of the Department of Mental Health and Corrections for initial staffing and start-up costs of the Children and Adolescent Development Program.

STATEMENT OF FACT

The purpose of this resolve is to establish a Prototype Mental Health Planning Region for eastern Maine and provide funds for initial staffing of a Children and Adolescent Development Program under the auspices of the Eastern Maine Medical Center.