

# MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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FIRST REGULAR SESSION

ONE HUNDRED AND NINTH LEGISLATURE

Legislative Document

No. 1198

S. P. 386

In Senate, March 14, 1979

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

Presented by Senator Trafton of Androscoggin.

Cosponsors: Senators Gill of Cumberland, Ault of Kennebec and Conley of Cumberland.

MAY M. ROSS, Secretary of the Senate

STATE OF MAINE

IN THE YEAR OF OUR LORD NINETEEN HUNDRED  
SEVENTY-NINE

AN ACT Authorizing a Legislative Study on Family Impact.

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

**Sec. 1. Study authorized.** The Legislature finds:

- A. That unprecedented changes are taking place in and to families;
- B. That governmental policies may have profound, direct affects on families;
- C. That the changes in and to families in turn, have profound and direct influences on government policies; and
- D. That it is in the interest of state-policy makers to know whether and how their policies and proposed policies may affect, and are affected by, families.

**Sec. 2. Evaluation of state policies.** The Legislature further finds that it would be desirable for a study to be conducted to develop a mechanism to evaluate how state policies, including policies imposed by statute and administrative act, and proposed policies affect, and are affected by families.

**Sec. 3. Technical assistance.** If technical assistance or cash or in-kind grants in aid become available to the Legislature for the purpose of conducting a study as

described in subsection 2, then the Legislative Council may agree with the grantor to participate in the study by matching the grant with expenditures for per diem and expenses of Legislators and costs of legislative staff in an amount not to exceed \$7,500. The Legislative Council may approve the terms of an agreement and request assistance from state departments and agencies during the study. State departments and agencies shall provide any assistance requested by the Legislative Council for the study.

#### STATEMENT OF FACT

The purpose of this bill is to authorize the Legislature to participate in a study of how state policies and proposed state policies affect, and are affected by, families.

The Legislature may be eligible to receive a cash grant and technical assistance from the Family Impact Seminar, a research organization at the George Washington University. This bill will permit the Legislature to participate in the study. At the time of printing of this bill, the terms of the grant have not been made final. The study is expected to begin in early fall of 1979 and to be completed in early spring of 1980.