

# MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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1 FIRST REGULAR SESSION  
2

3 ONE HUNDRED AND ELEVENTH LEGISLATURE  
4

5 Legislative Document

No. 952

6  
7 S.P. 316

In Senate, March 1, 1983

8 Referred to the Committee on Appropriations and Financial Affairs. Sent  
9 down for concurrence and ordered printed.

10 EDWIN H. PERT, Clerk

Presented by Senator Gill of Cumberland.

Cosponsors: Senator Bustin of Kennebec, Senator Diamond of  
11 Cumberland and Representative Kelleher of Bangor.

12 STATE OF MAINE  
13

14 IN THE YEAR OF OUR LORD  
15 NINETEEN HUNDRED AND EIGHTY-THREE  
16

17 AN ACT Appropriating Funds for Indepen-  
18 dent Living Services for the Disabled.  
19

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

22 Sec. 1. 22 MRSA c. 715 is enacted to read:

23 CHAPTER 715

24 INDEPENDENT LIVING SERVICES FOR THE DISABLED

25 §3081. Intent

26 The Legislature finds that the need to provide  
27 services for independent living has been established,  
28 and that data substantiate the cost-effectiveness of  
29 these services in preference to other forms of care  
30 for the disabled. Since reductions in federal fund-  
31 ing in this State have created a greater need for

1 services in the areas of deinstitutionalization and  
2 preventative services, the Legislature further finds  
3 it appropriate to allocate funds and contract with  
4 the Maine Independent Living Center to assure the  
5 delivery of these community-based services to the  
6 state's severely disabled persons.

7 §3082. Definitions

8 As used in this chapter, unless the context  
9 otherwise indicates, the following terms have the  
10 following meanings.

11 1. Independent living. "Independent living"  
12 means a level of control over one's life, based on  
13 the choice of acceptable options that minimize reli-  
14 ance on others in making decisions and in performing  
15 everyday activities.

16 2. Independent living services. "Independent  
17 living services" means services which promote or  
18 train severely disabled persons in managing their  
19 personal affairs, participating in day to day life in  
20 the community, fulfilling a range of social roles,  
21 and making decisions that lead to self-determination  
22 and the minimization of physical or psychological  
23 dependence on others.

24 3. Maine Independent Living Center. "Maine  
25 Independent Living Center" means the community-based,  
26 private nonprofit corporation established in 1979 to  
27 administer federal grants for independent living.

28 4. Preventative services. "Preventative ser-  
29 vices" means community-based services designed to  
30 prevent institutionalization or reinstitutionaliza-  
31 tion.

32 §3083. Responsibility of the center

33 The center shall contract with the department for  
34 the disbursement of funds allocated under this chap-  
35 ter, to assure the delivery of preventative services.  
36 As part of its contractual obligations with the  
37 department, the Maine Independent Living Center shall  
38 conduct an indepth study of the numbers of disabled  
39 persons in the State, the severity of their disabil-

1 ity, their needs, the services available to meet  
2 those needs, with particular emphasis on problems of  
3 service availability and delivery, and gaps in exist-  
4 ing services.

5 §3084. Report

6 On July 1, 1984, the Executive Director of the  
7 Maine Independent Living Center shall submit a report  
8 from the board of directors of the center to the  
9 legislative committee having jurisdiction over health  
10 and institutional services. The report includes, but  
11 not be limited to, the following:

12 1. Results of study. The results of the state-  
13 wide status determination study;

14 2. Cost per client. A breakdown of the average  
15 cost per client served, the cost per client served by  
16 disability group and the cost per client served by  
17 geographic area;

18 3. Plan; outline. An outline for a long-term  
19 plan for the streamlining of current service delivery  
20 models and the development of cost-effective services  
21 for the disabled; and

22 4. Comments. Comments on the quality and effec-  
23 tiveness of the services provided.

24 Sec. 2. Appropriation. The following funds are  
25 appropriated from the General Fund to carry out the  
26 purposes of this Act.

	<u>1983-84</u>	<u>1984-85</u>
27		
28	<u>HUMAN SERVICES,</u>	
29	<u>DEPARTMENT OF</u>	
30	All Other	\$1,000,000      \$1,100,000

31 STATEMENT OF FACT

32 For many disabled individuals independent living  
33 may be the key to reversing the trend of being a tax  
34 dollar recipient to being a tax payer. Even for

1 those who might never achieve total independence,  
2 services may improve skills to a level requiring care  
3 in a less restrictive environment; as has been demon-  
4 strated repeatedly, services which prevent or reverse  
5 institutionalization are less costly to deliver.

6 Independent living is a major component in the  
7 continuum of services to the disabled. These ser-  
8 vices provide the disabled with the tools necessary  
9 to attain more independent and fulfilling lives.

10 The bill authorizes the Maine Independent Living  
11 Center, a consumer-controlled organization dedicated  
12 to the promotion of independence for the state's dis-  
13 abled, to allocate funds to provide these services to  
14 the severely disabled and to study and report its  
15 findings to the Joint Standing Committee on Health  
16 and Institutional Services after a year.

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