

MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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1 FIRST REGULAR SESSION
2

3 ONE HUNDRED AND ELEVENTH LEGISLATURE
4

5 Legislative Document

No. 1265

7 H.P. 970

House of Representatives, March 18, 1983

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

EDWIN H. PERT, Clerk

10 Presented by Representative Murray of Bangor.

Cosponsors: Representative Lisnik of Presque Isle, Senator Clark of
Cumberland and Representative Nadeau of Lewiston.

11
12 STATE OF MAINE
13

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

17 AN ACT to Provide Advocacy Services to
18 Residents of Children's Homes.
19

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

22 Sec. 1. 20-A MRSA §7202, sub-§2-A is enacted to
23 read:

24 2-A. Assist advocates for developmentally dis-
25 abled. Assist the Protection and Advocacy Agency for
26 the Developmentally Disabled in Maine in conducting
27 an investigation, pursuant to Title 22, section 3554,
28 by providing access to relevant case records, noti-
29 fying parents or guardians of these investigations
30 and by requesting parental consent for access to case
31 records by the agency. Parents or guardians may
32 refuse to consent to the examination of these
33 records;

1 Provides funds for 2
2 advocates to perform the
3 additional advocacy func-
4 tion required by this
5 bill.

6 STATEMENT OF FACT

7 The purpose of this bill is to extend the advoca-
8 cacy services of the advocates for the developmen-
9 tally disabled to residents in children's homes.
10 Residents with mental disabilities in institutions
11 under the Department of Mental Health and Mental
12 Retardation are served by the Office of Advocacy;
13 developmentally disabled persons in institutions are
14 served by the advocates for the developmentally dis-
15 abled; and nursing home residents are served by the
16 nursing home ombudsman. There is no formal advocate
17 for residents in children's homes.

18 This bill extends the powers and duties of the
19 advocates for the developmentally disabled to resi-
20 dents in children's homes, emergency shelters and
21 residential child care facilities. Excluded from the
22 advocates' jurisdiction are foster homes and special-
23 ized children's homes.

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