

MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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1 SECOND REGULAR SESSION
2

3 ONE HUNDRED AND ELEVENTH LEGISLATURE
4

5 Legislative Document

No. 1900

6
7 H.P. 1448

House of Representatives, January 10, 1984

8 Submitted by the Department of Human Services pursuant to Joint Rule
9 24.

10 Reference to the Committee on Health and Institutional Services is
suggested and ordered printed.

EDWIN H. PERT, Clerk

Presented by Representative Melendy of Rockland.

11 Cosponsors: Representative Nelson of Portland and Representative
Carroll of Gray.

12 STATE OF MAINE
13

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

17 AN ACT to Amend the Statutes Governing the
18 Licensing of Children's Homes.
19

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

22 22 MRSA §8101, sub-§5, as enacted by PL 1981, c.
23 260, §4, is amended to read:

24 5. Specialized children's home. "Specialized
25 children's home" means a children's home where care
26 is provided to no more than 4 moderately to severely
27 handicapped children by a caretaker who is specifi-
28 cally educated and trained to provide for the partic-
29 ular needs of each child placed. The total number of
30 children in a specialized children's home may not ex-
31 ceed 4, including the caretaker's legal children un-
32 der 16 years of age, with no more than 2 children un-
33 der the age of 2. In order to keep siblings together,
34 this definition shall not prohibit the placement of
35 more than the allowed number. This definition shall

1 not preclude the department from placing a moderately
2 or severely retarded child in any other appropriate
3 child care facility at the department's discretion.

4 STATEMENT OF FACT

5 The purposes of this bill are (1) to provide that
6 more than 4 children can be placed in a specialized
7 foster home in order to keep siblings together rather
8 than separating them, and (2) to clarify that spe-
9 cialized children's homes are not the only kind of
10 facility into which moderately or severely handi-
11 capped children can be placed. For example, a moder-
12 ately or severely handicapped child could also be ap-
13 propriately cared for in a foster family home or a
14 residential child care facility.

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