

MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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1 SECOND REGULAR SESSION
2

3 ONE HUNDRED AND ELEVENTH LEGISLATURE
4

5 Legislative Document

No. 2020
6

7 H.P. 1535

House of Representatives, January 31, 1984

8 Approved for introduction by the Legislative Council pursuant to Joint
9 Rule 26.

10 Reference to the Committee on Appropriations and Financial Affairs is
suggested and ordered printed.

EDWIN H. PERT, Clerk

Presented by Representative Bell of Paris.

11 Cosponsors: Representative Mitchell of Vassalboro, Representative Davis
of Monmouth and Senator Najarian of Cumberland.

12 STATE OF MAINE
13

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

17 AN ACT to Fund Rape Crisis Centers.
18

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

21 Sec. 1. 22 MRSA c. 269 is enacted to read:

22 CHAPTER 269

23 RAPE CRISIS CENTERS

24 §1661. Legislative intent

25 The Legislature finds that rape and sexual as-
26 sault are crimes of violence that are both
27 underreported and increasing in incidence; that vic-
28 tims of rape need support services and counseling
29 that are currently unavailable from traditional medi-
30 cal or legal institutions; that the recent formation
31 of local and regional rape crisis centers has pro-
32 vided rape and sexual assault victims with vital

1 counseling and intervention services; and that the
2 volunteer efforts of these and future rape crisis
3 centers shall be supported and enhanced on a state-
4 wide basis, if possible. The Legislature declares
5 that it is consistent with public policy to fund
6 counseling and preventive educational programs by
7 rape crisis centers.

8 §1662. Funds

9 1. Purposes. The Department of Human Services
10 may receive and disburse funds made available to it
11 for financial support grants to rape crisis centers
12 for the following purposes:

13 A. Direct crisis intervention counseling of rape
14 and sexual assault victims;

15 B. Programs to support a sexual assault victim's
16 interaction with medical and legal professionals;

17 C. Programs to advocate and work with the sexual
18 assault victim throughout the court process, but
19 not to provide legal services; and

20 D. Programs to educate and train the public on
21 rape and sexual assault prevention.

22 2. Geographic coverage. Insofar as practicable,
23 the department shall make funds available to all ar-
24 reas of the State.

25 3. Local match. Any rape crisis center which
26 applies for funds under this chapter shall demon-
27 strate a match of either private donations or in-kind
28 services equal to 100% of the grant request from the
29 department.

30 §1663. Rules

31 The Commissioner of Human Services is authorized
32 and directed to adopt rules to implement this chapter
33 to reflect widely accepted and current services which
34 are presently provided. The commissioner shall con-
35 sult with organizations who counsel rape victims, and
36 shall make recommended allocations from the Maine Co-
37 alition on Rape.

