

MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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1 SECOND REGULAR SESSION
2

3 ONE HUNDRED AND ELEVENTH LEGISLATURE
4

5 Legislative Document

No. 2193

6
7 S.P. 816

In Senate, March 6, 1984

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

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

Presented by Senator Conley of Cumberland.
Presented by Senator Conley of Cumberland.

11 Cosponsors: Senator Najarian of Cumberland, Senator Usher of
Cumberland and Senator Gill 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 Clarify the Congregate
18 Housing Program for Maine's Elderly.
19

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

22 Sec. 1. 22 MRSA §5151, 3rd ¶, as enacted by PL
23 1979, c. 717, §1, is repealed.

24 Sec. 2. 22 MRSA §5152, as enacted by PL 1979, c.
25 717, §1, is repealed and the following enacted in its
26 place:

27 §5152. Definitions

28 As used in this section, unless the context indi-
29 cates otherwise, the following terms have the follow-
30 ing meanings.

31 1. Congregate housing. "Congregate housing"
32 means residential housing consisting of private

1 apartments and central dining facilities and within
2 which a congregate housing supportive services pro-
3 gram serves functionally impaired elderly occupants
4 who are unable to live independently yet do not re-
5 quire the constant supervision or intensive health
6 care available at intermediate care or skilled nurs-
7 ing facilities.

8 2. Congregate housing services program. "Con-
9 gregate housing services program" means a compre-
10 hensive program of supportive services, including meals,
11 housekeeping and chore assistance, personal care as-
12 sistance, case management and other services which
13 are delivered in congregate housing and assist occu-
14 pants to manage activities of daily living.

15 3. Eligible elderly clients. "Eligible elderly
16 clients" means an individual 60 years of age or over
17 who has been determined through an approved assess-
18 ment by the Department of Human Services to be func-
19 tionally impaired and in need of congregate housing
20 supportive services.

21 Sec. 3. 22 MRSA §5153, as enacted by PL 1979, c.
22 717, §1, is repealed and the following enacted in its
23 place:

24 §5153. Administration of congregate housing services
25 programs

26 The Department of Human Services, Bureau of
27 Maine's Elderly, with advice from the Maine Committee
28 on Aging, shall administer state funded congregate
29 housing services programs for the elderly. Adminis-
30 tration shall include, but not be limited to:

31 1. Rules; operations of congregate housing ser-
32 vices programs. Promulgating and adopting rules gov-
33 erning the operation of congregate housing services
34 programs;

35 2. Compliance with standards and guidelines.
36 Certifying and reviewing the compliance of congregate
37 housing services programs with standards and guide-
38 lines established for the program; and

1 and Farmers Home Administration, the Bureau of
2 Maine's Elderly awarded 2 projects, one in Farmington
3 (Ethel Walton House) and one in Portland (North
4 School).

5 That demonstration produced a 1981 report to the
6 Legislature which showed that:

7 1. Thirty-three elderly persons were receiving
8 congregate housing services at an average cost
9 which is lower than comparable boarding and nurs-
10 ing home costs;

11 2. Fifty percent of new residents in congregate
12 housing demonstrations actually moved there from
13 nursing or boarding homes or hospitals. The re-
14 maining 50% were at risk of institutionalization;
15 and

16 3. Elderly report high satisfaction with the
17 program, as evidenced by long waiting lists; some
18 of whom now reside in institutions and wish to
19 move out.

20 This bill allows the Department of Human Services
21 to continue congregate housing programs, as funds are
22 available, gives the Department of Human Services the
23 authority to certify all privately and publicly de-
24 veloped programs for their compliance with program
25 rules. Certification allows consumers and their fam-
26 ilies to determine whether or not a congregate hous-
27 ing program meets the standards established by the
28 Department of Human Services.

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