

MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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1 FIRST REGULAR SESSION
2

3 ONE HUNDRED AND TWELFTH LEGISLATURE
4

5 Legislative Document

No. 945
6

7 H.P. 662

House of Representatives, March 7, 1985

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

10 EDWIN H. PERT, Clerk

Presented by Representative Rydell of Brunswick.

11 Cosponsored by Representative Nelson of Portland, Senator Bustin of
Kennebec and Senator Sewall of Lincoln.

12 STATE OF MAINE
13

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

17 AN ACT to Support the Growth and Development
18 of Community Child Abuse and Neglect
19 Councils.
20

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

23 Sec. 1. 22 MRSA c. 1057 is enacted to read:

24 CHAPTER 1057

25 CHILD ABUSE AND NEGLECT COORDINATING COMMITTEES

26 §3871. Purpose

27 The purpose of this chapter is to encourage and
28 maintain coordinated community efforts to prevent
29 child abuse and neglect and to ensure adequate inter-
30 vention and treatment for abused and neglected chil-
31 dren and their families.

32 §3872. Definitions

1 As used in this chapter, unless the context indi-
2 cates otherwise, the following terms have the follow-
3 ing meanings.

4 1. Community coordinating committee. "Community
5 coordinating committee" means a community council or
6 organization created to encourage and coordinate com-
7 munity efforts to prevent and to treat child abuse
8 and neglect and which provides continuous year-round
9 service.

10 2. Fiscal agent. "Fiscal agent" means an incor-
11 porated community organization, agency or institution
12 designated by the community coordinating committee
13 and authorized by the Department of Human Services to
14 receive and distribute grants to that community coor-
15 inating committee.

16 3. Maine Association of Child Abuse and Neglect
17 Council. "Maine Association of Child Abuse and Ne-
18 glect Council" means the organization which is com-
19 posed of a majority of the community coordinating
20 committees. The association shall have at least one
21 representative from each member committee.

22 §3873. Authorization for expenditure of funds

23 The Commissioner of Human Services may, from
24 funds authorized to the department, make grants to
25 incorporated community coordinating committees or
26 fiscal agents to further the purposes of this chap-
27 ter.

28 1. Grants. Grants shall be made on a competi-
29 tive basis according to rules adopted or amended by
30 the commissioner. Grants in excess of \$15,000 shall
31 be made on a one-to-one matching basis with contribu-
32 tions from the community. Community contributions
33 may be donations of cash or may be in kind contribu-
34 tions, as determined by departmental rule.

35 2. Distribution of grants. Grants shall be
36 awarded to support existing community coordinating
37 committees and to assist the establishment of new
38 community coordinating committees. It is the intent
39 of this chapter to support a statewide network of
40 community coordinating committees by the end of fis-
41 cal year 1987.

1 3. Consultation with Maine Association of Child
2 Abuse and Neglect Council. The Maine Association of
3 Child Abuse and Neglect Council shall advise the de-
4 partment regarding the distribution of grants before
5 any grants are awarded.

6 §3874. Fiscal agents

7 A fiscal agent receiving grants under this chap-
8 ter shall act only in an administrative capacity to
9 receive and distribute grant money to the community
10 coordinating committee, as described in the rules
11 promulgated by the department for regulating the lo-
12 cal administration of these programs.

13 §3875. Community coordinating committee; membership

14 A community coordinating committee shall be re-
15 sponsible for the governance of the community program
16 under this chapter. Membership of the community co-
17 ordinating committee shall include representatives
18 from the appropriate regional office of the Depart-
19 ment of Human Services, a local mental health agency,
20 the Bureau of Mental Retardation or a local program
21 for the mentally retarded, the local education commu-
22 nity, a community agency providing services to chil-
23 dren, a community agency which does not provide ser-
24 vices to children, the local law enforcement communi-
25 ty, the local health community, the local religious
26 community and other community members. The member-
27 ship shall include at least one person who has experi-
28 enced child abuse or neglect either directly or as
29 a family member. Terms of membership and methods of
30 appointment or election of members shall be deter-
31 mined by the community coordinating committee's by-
32 laws.

33 §3876. Waiver of certain requirements

34 Notwithstanding the provisions of section 3873,
35 for grants of \$6,000 or less awarded to community co-
36 ordinating committees, the department may waive the
37 provisions of section 3875, which designates the mem-
38 bership of a community coordinating committee, and
39 may award the grant directly to an unincorporated
40 committee. No community coordinating committee may
41 receive more than 3 grants under the provisions of
42 the waivers provided by this section.

