

1 2	FIRST REGULAR SESSION
3 4	ONE HUNDRED AND TWELFTH LEGISLATURE
5	Legislative Document No. 1176
7 8	H.P. 832 On motion of Representative Nelson of Portland, referred to the
9	Committee on Taxation. Sent up for concurrence and ordered printed.
10	EDWIN H. PERT, Clerk
11	Presented by Representative Diamond of Bangor. Cosponsored by Senator Pearson of Penobscot, Senator Kany of Kennebec and Representative Murray of Bangor.
12 13	STATE OF MAINE
14 15 16	IN THE YEAR OF OUR LORD NINETEEN HUNDRED AND EIGHTY-FIVE
17 18 19	AN ACT Relating to the Establishment of a Maine Children's Trust Fund.
20 21	Be it enacted by the People of the State of Maine as follows:
22 23	<pre>Sec. 1. 5 MRSA §12004, sub-§8, ¶A, sub-¶(12-A) is enacted to read:</pre>
24 25 26 27	(12-A) Human Services: Board of <u>Expenses</u> 22 MRSA §4083 <u>Child Protec-</u> <u>tion</u> <u>Children's</u> <u>Trust Fund</u>
28 29	Sec. 2. 22 MRSA c. 1071, sub-IX is enacted to read:
30	SUBCHAPTER IX
31	MAINE CHILDREN'S TRUST FUND
32	§4081. Definitions

1 2 3	As used in this subchapter, unless the context otherwise indicates, the following terms have the following meanings.
<b>4</b>	<u>l. Board. "Board" means the Board of the Maine</u>
5	Children's Trust Fund.
6	2. Fund. "Fund" means the Maine Children's Trust
7	Fund.
8	3. Prevention programs. "Prevention programs"
9	means programs, plans or training associated with the
10	prevention of child abuse, child neglect or mental
11	illness or with other factors associated with the
12	physical and emotional well-being of the youth of the
13	State.
14	§4082. Maine Children's Trust Fund
15	<ol> <li>Establishment. There is established the</li></ol>
16	Maine Children's Trust Fund. It shall receive money
17	deposited by the Treasurer of State pursuant to Title
18	36, section 5285. <li>Crants. Any person, organization or agency</li>
20	of the State may apply for a grant from the Maine
21	Children's Trust Fund for prevention programs. Appli-
22	cations for grants shall be received and grants
23	awarded by the board in accordance with this subchap-
24	ter.
25	§4083. Board; establishment
26	1. Establishment. The Board of the Maine Chil-
27	dren's Trust Fund is established pursuant to Title 5,
28	section 12004, subsection 8.
29	2. Membership. The board shall consist of 9 mem-
30	bers as follows:
31 32	A. The Commissioner of Human Services, or his designee;
33 34	B. The Commissioner of Mental Health and Mental Retardation, or his designee;

1C. The Commissioner of Educational and Cultural2Services, or his designee;

3 D. The Chief of the State Police, or his desig-4 nee; and

5 E. Five public members appointed by the Governor 6 who shall be appointed for terms of 3 years, ex-7 cept of those first appointed, 2 shall be appointed for a term of 3 years, 2 shall be ap-8 pointed for a term of 2 years and one shall be appointed for a term of one year. The public mem-9 10 11 bers shall, as far as practicable, be representative of the following groups: Parents; business 12 13 and labor; the legal community; the religious community; and providers of child abuse and ne-glect prevention services. 14 15

16 <u>3. Officers. The Governor shall annually appoint</u> 17 <u>one of the public members to serve as chairman of the</u> 18 <u>board. The board may elect, from among its members,</u> 19 <u>other officers and committees as it deems appropri-</u> 20 <u>ate.</u>

21 <u>4. Compensation. The members shall be compen-</u>
 22 <u>sated according to the provisions of Title 5, chapter</u>
 23 <u>379.</u>

5. Meetings. The board shall meet at least once
 annually and 5 members of the board shall constitute
 a quorum.

27 <u>§4084.</u> Duties

28 The board shall have the following powers and du-29 ties:

1. Plan. Develop a state plan for the distribu tion of money in the fund and distribute money in ac cordance with that plan. In developing the plan, the
 board shall:

34 <u>A. Review existing prevention programs;</u>

B. Assure that an equal opportunity exists for
the establishment of prevention programs and receipt of fund money among all geographic areas in
the State; and

1 2	C. Submit the plan to the Legislature at least once in every 2-year period;
3	2. Exchange of information. Provide for the co-
4	ordination and exchange of information on the estab-
5	lishment and maintenance of prevention programs;
6	3. Criteria for receipt of fund money. Develop
7	and publicize criteria for the receipt of fund money
8	by eligible persons, organizations or state agencies;
9	4. Review. Review, approve and monitor the ex-
10	penditure of fund money awarded pursuant to this sub-
11	chapter;
12	5. Education. Provide statewide education and
13	public information to develop public awareness con-
14	cerning child abuse, neglect and mental illness;
15	6. Contracts. Enter into contracts with public
16	or private agencies or accept any grants or gifts
17	from any federal, state or private source to carry
18	out this subchapter;
19	7. Recommendations. Make recommendations to the
20	Governor and the Legislature concerning changes in
21	state laws, rules, programs or policies which will
22	reduce the problem of child abuse, neglect and mental
23	illness and improve coordination among state agencies
24	that provide prevention services; and
20 21 22 23	7. Recommendations. Make recommendations to the Governor and the Legislature concerning changes in state laws, rules, programs or policies which will reduce the problem of child abuse, neglect and mental illness and improve coordination among state agencies
20 21 22 23 24 25 26	7. Recommendations. Make recommendations to the Governor and the Legislature concerning changes in state laws, rules, programs or policies which will reduce the problem of child abuse, neglect and mental illness and improve coordination among state agencies that provide prevention services; and <u>8. Rules. Promulgate rules, in accordance with</u> the Maine Administrative Procedure Act, Title 5,
20 21 22 23 24 25 26 27	7. Recommendations. Make recommendations to the Governor and the Legislature concerning changes in state laws, rules, programs or policies which will reduce the problem of child abuse, neglect and mental illness and improve coordination among state agencies that provide prevention services; and 8. Rules. Promulgate rules, in accordance with the Maine Administrative Procedure Act, Title 5, chapter 375, to carry out this subchapter.
20 21 22 23 24 25 26 27 28 29 30 31 32 33	7. Recommendations. Make recommendations to the Governor and the Legislature concerning changes in state laws, rules, programs or policies which will reduce the problem of child abuse, neglect and mental illness and improve coordination among state agencies that provide prevention services; and 8. Rules. Promulgate rules, in accordance with the Maine Administrative Procedure Act, Title 5, chapter 375, to carry out this subchapter. §4085. Disbursement of fund money The board shall, by rule, establish a procedure and form for receipt of applications under this sub- chapter. Upon approval, the board may disburse fund money to qualified persons, organizations or state agencies for the development or operation of preven-

Page 4-L.D. 1176

1	1. Maine Children's Trust Fund. Taxpayers who,
2	when filing their returns, are entitled to a refund
3	under this Part may designate a portion of that re-
4	fund, to be paid into the Maine Children's Trust Fund
5	established in Title 22, chapter 1071, subchapter IX.
6	Each individual income tax return form shall contain
7	a designation in substantially the following form:
8	"Contributions to Maine Children's Trust Fund"
9	<pre>\$2 Individual Return \$4 Joint Return</pre>
10	2. Contributions credited to the Maine Chil-
11	dren's Trust Fund. The State Tax Assessor shall de-
12	termine annually the total amount contributed pursu-
13	ant to subsection 1. Prior to the beginning of the
3.4	
14	next year, he shall deduct the cost of administering
14 15	
	next year, he shall deduct the cost of administering the Maine Children's Trust Fund checkoff, but not ex- ceeding \$2,000 annually, and report the remainder to
15	the Maine Children's Trust Fund checkoff, but not ex-
15 16	the Maine Children's Trust Fund checkoff, but not ex- ceeding \$2,000 annually, and report the remainder to

## STATEMENT OF FACT

21 The prevention of child abuse, child neglect, 22 mental illness and other factors related to the physical and emotional well-being of Maine youth are desperately in need of comprehensive planning and the 23 24 25 systematic allocation of resources. The establishment of the Maine Children's Trust 26 Fund. initiated 27 and sustained through a voluntary contribution proce-28 dure on state income tax refunds and administered 29 through an independent board, will ensure that these 30 pressing problems of Maine youth are systematically 31 addressed.

1367020285

32

20