

MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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1 FIRST REGULAR SESSION
2

3 ONE HUNDRED AND TWELFTH LEGISLATURE
4

5 Legislative Document

No. 1350

6
7 H.P. 940

House of Representatives, April 19, 1985

8 Referred to the Committee on Human Resources. Sent up for
9 concurrence and ordered printed.

10 EDWIN H. PERT, Clerk

Presented by Representative Nelson of Portland.

Cosponsored by Representative Brodeur of Auburn.

11
12 STATE OF MAINE
13

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

17 AN ACT to Limit the Number of Clients
18 Assigned to Human Services
19 Caseworkers.
20

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

23 22 MRSA §4004, sub-§4 is enacted to read:

24 4. Limitation on clients for caseworkers. The
25 number of clients assigned to human services
26 caseworkers providing protective services shall be
27 maintained at 25 clients per caseworker. The number
28 of clients assigned to human services caseworkers
29 providing substitute care services shall be main-
30 tained at 30 clients per caseworker.

31 When the average case load for any region exceeds the
32 maximum limits prescribed by this section for any
33 consecutive 2 months, the department shall report
34 that fact to the Governor and the Legislature. That
35 report shall also include the number of vacant case-

1 worker positions in that region during that period
2 and the total length of time each position has been
3 vacant, including any period of time prior to the re-
4 porting period.

5 STATEMENT OF FACT

6 This bill limits the number of clients assigned
7 to a human services caseworker. Currently, many
8 caseworkers are experiencing frustration and burnout.
9 One of the causes of that problem is the current
10 overload of clients. This bill also requires the de-
11 partment to report to the Governor and Legislature
12 any overload which has existed for at least 2 months
13 and to indicate any vacant caseworker positions in
14 the region experiencing the overload.

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