

FIRST REGULAR SESSION				
	ONE HUNDRED AND	TWELFTH LEGISLATURE		
Legisla	tive Document	No	. 1366	
S.P. 506	<u>.</u>	In Senate, April 22	2, 1985	
	erred to the Committee on H ence and ordered printed.	Human Resources. Sent down for		
		JOY J. O'BRIEN, Secretary of the	Senate	
	ed by Senator Bustin of Kenr sponsored by Senator Chalme	nebec. ers of Knox and Representative Rold	de of	
	STATE	OF MAINE		
		AR OF OUR LORD ED AND EIGHTY-FIVE		
		ve Delivery of Child ve Services.		
Be it follo		ole of the State of Maine	as	
Se	∋c. 1. 22 MRSA §402	24 is enacted to read:		
§4024	. Emergency shelter	<u>s</u>		
SI	nelters shall be est	ablished as follows.		
one 8. of tl	-bed emergency shelt he department for s authorized for care	commissioner shall estab ter in each of the 5 reg short-term placement of c by the department under	ions hil-	
the de		shelters shall be operate control of the Bureau of		

1 <u>3. Staff. The shelters shall be staffed by em-</u> 2 ployees of the department.

3 Sec. 2. 22 MRSA §4066 is enacted to read:

4 §4066. Case load limits

5 Caseworkers in the department who perform child 6 protective or substitute care services shall maintain 7 an open case load of no more than 25 cases.

8 Sec. 3. Appropriation. The following funds are 9 appropriated from the General Fund to carry out the 10 purposes of this Act.

 11
 1985-86
 1986-87

 12
 HUMAN SERVICES, DEPARTMENT OF
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13	Personal Services	\$500,000	\$500,000
14	All Other	500,000	500,000
15	Total	\$1,000,000	\$1,000,000

STATEMENT OF FACT

17 Child protective and substitute caseworkers are 18 currently carrying case loads of between 30 and 40 19 cases. This has proven to be detrimental to 20 caseworkers and clients. The bill establishes a lim-21 it similar to the case load limit established in oth-22 er states which have addressed the problems.

23 The bill establishes a network of state operated There 24 emergency shelters for children at risk. is 25 currently a severe shortage of short-term placement 26 facilities for children at risk which leaves caseworkers with the difficult choice between making 27 an inappropriate placement or none at all. The shel-28 ters are established within each region to enable maintenance of local support services for these chil-29 30 31 dren.

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