

# MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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1 FIRST REGULAR SESSION  
2

3 ONE HUNDRED AND TWELFTH LEGISLATURE  
4

5 Legislative Document

No. 1403

6  
7 H.P. 968

House of Representatives, April 25, 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 Brodeur of Auburn.

Cosponsored by Representative Connolly of Portland.

11  
12 STATE OF MAINE  
13

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

17 AN ACT to Provide for Crisis Intervention and  
18 Continued Treatment and Support in  
19 Cases of Child Abuse and Neglect.  
20

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

23 Appropriation. The following funds are appropri-  
24 ated from the General Fund to carry out the purposes  
25 of this Act.

26 1985-86 1986-87  
27 MENTAL HEALTH AND MENTAL  
28 RETARDATION, DEPARTMENT OF

29 Bureau of Mental Health  
30 All Other

\$325,000 \$ 551,068

1	Provides funds for		
2	treatment and sup-		
3	port of incest vic-		
4	tims and survivors		
5	through Looking Up,		
6	an organization		
7	whose functions in-		
8	clude, but are not		
9	limited to, estab-		
10	lishment and coordi-		
11	nation of a state-		
12	wide network of vic-		
13	tim and		
14	survivor-oriented		
15	support groups.		
16	Office of Children's		
17	Services		
18	All Other	393,750	577,500
19	Provides funds for 3		
20	sexual abuse-focused		
21	Homebuilders model		
22	projects to provide		
23	short-term, one to 2		
24	weeks, home-based		
25	crisis intervention		
26	services through		
27	interdisciplinary		
28	clinical teams.		
29	Office of Children's		
30	Services		
31	All Other	<u>225,000</u>	<u>330,000</u>
32	Provides funds to		
33	assure continuing		
34	treatment for fami-		
35	lies stabilized		
36	through the short-		
37	term intervention of		
38	sexual abuse		
39	Homebuilders teams.		
40	DEPARTMENT OF MENTAL HEALTH		
41	AND MENTAL RETARDATION		
42	TOTAL	\$943,750	\$1,458,568

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STATEMENT OF FACT

2           The first appropriation establishes a funding  
3 base for Looking Up, a nonprofit support organization  
4 for victims and survivors of incest. Looking Up will  
5 serve as the central coordinating agency for a state-  
6 wide network of community-based support centers.  
7 Each regional support center will utilize full-time  
8 staff and part-time and volunteer staff to provide  
9 community support groups, a 24-hour-a-day telephone  
10 support network and multi-system coordination and to  
11 serve as an information and referral source. Each  
12 regional office will operate under the guidance of an  
13 advisory board composed of local community members  
14 representing survivors of incest as well as a varied  
15 background of social service expertise. In addition,  
16 program workers will be incest aware individuals su-  
17 pervised by a professional consulting team.

18           A central office will coordinate the regional of-  
19 fices, prepare education and prevention publications  
20 and coordinate regional and state-wide awareness pre-  
21 sentations and challenge-activity workshops.

22           This program will help meet a growing need for  
23 ongoing treatment and assistance in the healing ef-  
24 forts of victims and survivors of incest. According  
25 to the Governor's Working Group on Child Abuse and  
26 Neglect, the waiting lists for treatment are exten-  
27 sive, with existing services having a capacity for  
28 only one of 4 cases identified as being in need.

29           The 2nd appropriation reflects the findings that  
30 the State's 9 existing Homebuilders projects are ex-  
31 tremely successful in averting removal of children  
32 from their homes and also that there is a significant  
33 recent increase in the number of placements in resi-  
34 dential programs attributable to incest. None of the  
35 existing Homebuilders projects specialize in sexual  
36 abuse. Each of the proposed 3 projects will serve 40  
37 to 50 families per year.

38           The 3rd appropriation is an essential accompani-  
39 ment to the Homebuilders projects, assuring that nec-  
40 essary long-term treatment from teams of clinicians,  
41 through both individual and group work with families,

1 is available to resolve and prevent the future occur-  
2 rence of problems stabilized through the short-term  
3 crisis intervention.

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