MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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FIRST REGULAR SESSION

ONE HUNDRED AND THIRTEENTH LEGISLATURE

Legislative Document

NO. 349

H.P. 266 House of Representatives, February 11, 1987 Reference to the Committee on Human Resources suggested and ordered printed.

EDWIN H. PERT, Clerk Presented by Representative CARROLL of Gray. Cosponsored by Representatives KIMBALL of Buxton and SIMPSON of Casco.

STATE OF MAINE

IN THE YEAR OF OUR LORD NINETEEN HUNDRED AND EIGHTY-SEVEN

1 2 3 4 5 6 7	AN ACT to Provide for a Prospective Payment System for State Reimbursement of Boarding Care Facilities with More than 6 Beds, to Allow for Periodic Cost-of-living Adjustments and for Other Purposes.
8 9	Be it enacted by the People of the State of Maine as follows:
10	22 MRSA §7907-A is enacted to read:
11 12	§7907-A. Prospective boarding care payments for facilities with more than 6 beds
13 14 15	1. Prospective payment system. With respect to boarding care facilities with more than 6 beds, the department shall reimburse all boarding care facili-

- ties by means of a prospective payment system which utilizes a methodology similar to that which the department has employed since 1982 regarding intermediate care facilities. The department shall promulgate rules implementing the system on or before October 1, 1987, which shall govern boarding home payment years beginning on and after that date.
 - 2. Base year costs. The prospective payment system shall utilize as base year costs, each facility's actual costs in its last fiscal year which ended on or before December 31, 1986.

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- 3. Adjustment factors. The prospective payment system shall utilize appropriate factors in order to adjust base year costs to prospective payments taking into consideration the earlier methodologies utilized by the department with respect to the prospective payment system for intermediate care facilities and by the Maine Health Care Finance Commission with respect to hospitals. The prospective payment system for boarding and facilities shall include, among other adjustments, an appropriate allowance for inflation and increased labor costs based on the increase in costs of goods and services for health care facilities as published by Data Resources, Incorporated.
- 4. Consultation with representative groups. Before promulgating the rules, the department shall consult with representative groups concerned with boarding care facilities and their residents including, but not limited to, the Maine Committee on Aging, Legal Services for the Elderly and Residential Care Association.

STATEMENT OF FACT

The purpose of this bill is to require the Department of Human Services to establish a payment system for reimbursement of boarding care facilities of more than 6 beds similar to that system in nursing homes since 1982.

Currently, boarding homes of 6 or fewer residents, except those for the mentally retarded, are on

a so-called flat rate system. The last session of the Legislature enacted legislation to require an annual inflationary adjustment to the current ceiling, but this approach will not make up for the past inequities.

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Boarding homes with more than 6 residents and all boarding homes for mentally retarded, including those with 6 or fewer residents, are currently subject to a "reasonably cost-based reimbursement system" as administered by the department. This system does not address actual costs as it is subject to a \$590 per month ceiling and is subject to an audit process which often results in several years delay in needed payments.

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