

# MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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FIRST REGULAR SESSION

ONE HUNDRED AND THIRTEENTH LEGISLATURE

Legislative Document

No. 624

S.P. 230

In Senate, March 9, 1987

Reference to the Committee on Appropriations and Financial Affairs suggested and ordered printed.

JOY J. O'BRIEN, Secretary of the Senate  
Presented by Senator GILL of Cumberland.

Cosponsored by Representative ROLDE of York, Senator  
BALDACCI of Penobscot, Representative PINES of Limestone.

STATE OF MAINE

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

AN ACT Maintaining Community Services for  
Emotionally Disturbed Children and  
Adolescents.

1  
2  
3  
4

5 Be it enacted by the People of the State of Maine as  
6 follows:

7 Appropriation. The following funds are appropri-  
8 ated from the General Fund to carry out the purposes  
9 of this Act.

10 1987-88 1988-89

11 MENTAL HEALTH AND MENTAL  
12 RETARDATION, DEPARTMENT  
13 OF

1 Bureau of Children  
2 with Special Needs

3 All Other \$228,424 \$238,143

4 Funds to be dis-  
5 tributed to the  
6 Child and Adoles-  
7 cent Service Sys-  
8 tem Project in  
9 York, Penobscot  
10 and Cumberland  
11 Counties to offset  
12 decreased federal  
13 share of current  
14 coordination ser-  
15 vices; to estab-  
16 lish the Regional  
17 Program Coordina-  
18 tor in Cumberland  
19 County; and to  
20 provide approxi-  
21 mately \$50,000 per  
22 region for Region-  
23 al Program Coordi-  
24 nators.

25 STATEMENT OF FACT

26 Severly emotionally disturbed children and ado-  
27 lescents can be served in their communities, and di-  
28 verted from more costly residential treatment and  
29 hospitalization only with effective coordination by  
30 providers of mental health, health, child welfare and  
31 correctional services. Of Maine's estimated 25,000  
32 children and adolescents with mental health problems,  
33 6,000 present serious, long-term emotional and behav-  
34 ioral problems such as severe depression, anxiety,  
35 aggression and self-destructive behaviors which re-  
36 quire services from a variety of community resources.  
37 Presently, service coordination is provided in York  
38 County, Penobscot County and Cumberland County by the  
39 Child and Adolescent Service System Project through a  
40 grant from the National Institute of Mental Health.

1           This bill requests funding:

2           1. To offset decreased federal share of current  
3 coordination services, \$41,354 in fiscal year 1988;

4           2. To establish the Regional Program Coordinator  
5 in Cumberland County, presently funded on a one-year  
6 temporary basis, \$37,070 in fiscal year 1988; and

7           3. To provide approximately \$50,000 per region  
8 for Regional Program Coordinators, in conjunction  
9 with local advisory committees, to access specialized  
10 emergency psychiatric, residential, crisis interven-  
11 tion or support services to ensure community-based  
12 programming for the severely disturbed children and  
13 adolescents.

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