

# MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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FIRST REGULAR SESSION

ONE HUNDRED AND THIRTEENTH LEGISLATURE

Legislative Document

No. 1420

S.P. 463

In Senate, May 4, 1987

Submitted by the Department of Human Services pursuant to Joint Rule 24.

Reference to the Committee on Human Resources suggested and ordered printed.

JOY J. O'BRIEN, Secretary of the Senate

Presented by Senator WEBSTER of Franklin.

Cosponsored by Representative FARNUM of South Berwick, Representative ROLDE of York, Representative GARLAND of Bangor.

STATE OF MAINE

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

**AN ACT to Amend the Laws Governing the  
Licensing of Children's Homes.**

1  
2  
3

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

6 **22 MRSA §8101, sub-§4-A is enacted to read:**

7 4-A. Respite care home. "Respite care home"  
8 means a children's home that is a private dwelling  
9 where substitute parental care is provided within a  
10 family on a regular, 24-hour a day, residential basis  
11 not to exceed a period of 3 consecutive weeks to  
12 children who are under 18 years of age and unrelated  
13 to the foster family by blood or by marriage or adop-  
14 tion. The total number of children in care in any  
15 single respite care home may not exceed 6, including  
16 the family's legal children under 16 years of age,

1 with no more than 2 of these children under the age  
2 of 2.

3 STATEMENT OF FACT

4 This bill clarifies and allows for distinctions  
5 between family foster homes for children and respite  
6 care homes for children. Such a clarification has  
7 been made necessary by the development of rules for  
8 the licensing of family foster homes providing only  
9 respite care for children. These rules were devel-  
10 oped in response to a need to recognize a different  
11 type of service being provided in the community. The  
12 primary users of respite care are clients of the Bu-  
13 reau of Mental Retardation.

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