

# MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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(After Deadline)  
FIRST REGULAR SESSION

ONE HUNDRED AND THIRTEENTH LEGISLATURE

Legislative Document

NO. 1562

H.P. 1147 House of Representatives, May 14, 1987  
Approved for introduction by a majority of the  
Legislative Council pursuant to Joint Rule 27.  
Reference to the Committee on Appropriations and  
Financial Affairs suggested and ordered printed.  
EDWIN H. PERT, Clerk  
Presented by Representative DIAMOND of Bangor.  
Cosponsored by President PRAY of Penobscot, Senator  
PERKINS of Hancock, and Representative FOSTER of Ellsworth.

STATE OF MAINE

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

1 AN ACT to Create a Crisis Intervention  
2 Program for the Mentally Ill to Serve  
3 Penobscot, Hancock, Piscataquis and  
4 Washington Counties.  
5

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

8 Sec. 1. 5 MRSA §12004, sub-§8, ¶A, sub-¶(20-A)  
9 is enacted to read:

10	<u>(20-A)</u>	<u>Mental</u>	<u>Region</u>	<u>II</u>	<u>Expenses</u>	<u>34-B MRSA</u>
11		<u>Health and</u>	<u>Crisis Inter-</u>		<u>Only</u>	<u>\$3621</u>
12		<u>Mental</u>	<u>vention Pro-</u>			
13		<u>Retardation</u>	<u>gram Advisory</u>			
14			<u>Board</u>			

1           Sec. 2. 34-B MRSA c. 3, sub-c. III, first 2  
2 lines are repealed and the following enacted in their  
3 place:

4                                   SUBCHAPTER III

5                                   COMMUNITY MENTAL HEALTH SERVICES

6                                   ARTICLE I

7                                   GENERAL PROVISIONS

8           Sec. 3. 34-B MRSA c. 3, sub-c. III, art. II is  
9 enacted to read:

10                                   ARTICLE II

11                                   CRISIS INTERVENTION PROGRAM

12       §3621. Crisis Intervention Program established

13           The department shall establish the Crisis Inter-  
14 vention Program to serve Penobscot, Hancock,  
15 Piscataquis and Washington Counties. This shall be a  
16 community-based program to provide counseling, con-  
17 sultation, evaluation, treatment and referral, educa-  
18 tion and training services, delivered by a crisis in-  
19 tervention team. The program shall provide the fol-  
20 lowing services:

21           1. Emergency room services. Crisis intervention  
22 and psychiatric emergency services based in a hospi-  
23 tal emergency room;

24           2. Outreach services. Outreach services and  
25 crisis intervention beyond the hospital setting; and

26           3. Telephone hot-line services. A  
27 community-based telephone crisis intervention  
28 hot-line offering 24-hour, 7-days-a-week counseling,  
29 consultation, evaluation, treatment and referral ser-  
30 vices.

31       §3622. Crisis intervention team

32           1. Established. A community-based crisis inter-  
33 vention team shall be established to provide crisis

1 intervention on a 24-hour, 7-days-a-week basis to  
2 mentally ill people and to provide crisis interven-  
3 tion training for emergency room personnel.

4 2. Qualifications. The team shall be comprised  
5 of qualified mental health professionals with train-  
6 ing and experience in assessment and intervention  
7 with mentally ill people in a crisis. In addition,  
8 the team members shall have a working knowledge of  
9 case management, the mental health system and area  
10 resources.

11 §3623. Region II Crisis Intervention Program Advis-  
12 ory Board

13 1. Established. The Region II Crisis Interven-  
14 tion Program Advisory Board as established by Title  
15 5, section 12004, subsection 8, shall consist of 9  
16 members as follows: The Superintendent of the Bangor  
17 Mental Health Institute, or a designee; the chief ex-  
18 ecutive officer of the participating hospital, or a  
19 designee; the coordinator of the project; the direc-  
20 tor of community support services for the community  
21 health and counseling service; a representative of  
22 the Down-East Alliance for Mentally Ill chosen by  
23 that group; a private mental health practitioner; a  
24 consumer of mental health services; and 2 additional  
25 members appointed by the commissioner. The members  
26 appointed by the commissioner shall represent a geo-  
27 graphical distribution within the region.

28 2. Duties. The department shall consult with  
29 the board periodically concerning the establishment  
30 and operation of the Crisis Intervention Program, in-  
31 cluding, but not limited to, community needs, program  
32 planning and development, fund-raising and a periodic  
33 review of the program.

34 Sec. 4. Appropriation. The following funds are  
35 appropriated from the General Fund to carry out the  
36 purposes of this Act.

	<u>1987-88</u>	<u>1988-89</u>
37		
38	<u>MENTAL HEALTH AND</u>	
39	<u>MENTAL RETARDATION,</u>	

1. DEPARTMENT OF

2. Bureau of Mental Health

3. All Other \$200,000 \$200,000

4. This money shall be  
5. used to purchase  
6. crisis intervention  
7. services established  
8. in this Act.

9. STATEMENT OF FACT

10. Penobscot, Hancock, Piscataquis and Washington  
11. Counties presently have grossly inadequate crisis in-  
12. tervention services available for mentally ill per-  
13. sons. There are limited sources of contact with men-  
14. tal health professionals from 5 p.m. to 9 a.m. and on  
15. weekends and holidays in that area. The Bangor Men-  
16. tal Health Institute is grossly overextended and is  
17. geographically difficult to reach for many in that  
18. 4-county area. No emergency room in the catchment  
19. area has a psychiatrist, psychologist or social work-  
20. er on duty in the emergency room.

21. When urgent mental health needs are not responded  
22. to by timely and appropriate interventions, situa-  
23. tions escalate resulting in a proportionate increase  
24. of suicide, substance abuse, child abuse and neglect,  
25. domestic violence and homelessness. Timely crisis  
26. intervention may result in substantial savings to  
27. public expenditures and a significant reduction in  
28. human suffering.

29. This bill establishes the Crisis Intervention  
30. Program for Penobscot, Hancock, Piscataquis and Wash-  
31. ington Counties. The program will deliver crisis in-  
32. tervention services through a hospital-based program,  
33. an outreach program and a telephone hot-line. An ad-  
34. visory board is also created to provide oversight,  
35. planning and fund-raising activities.

36. 2333051187