# MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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### (Governor's Bill) (EMERGENCY) FIRST REGULAR SESSION

#### ONE HUNDRED AND THIRTEENTH LEGISLATURE

## Legislative Document

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NO. 1876

H.P. 1377 House of Representatives, June 30, 1987
Reference to the Committee on Business Legislation
suggested and ordered printed.
EDWIN H. PERT, Clerk
Presented by Speaker MARTIN of Eagle Lake.
Cosponsored by Senator PERKINS of Hancock, President PRAY
of Penobscot and Representative MURPHY of Kennebunk.

### STATE OF MAINE

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

| 2            |   | Worker Licensure Requirement to State Employees.   |
|--------------|---|--|
| 5            | • | Emergency preamble. Whereas, Acts of the Legis-  |
| 6<br>7       |   | lature do not become effective until 90 days after adjournment unless enacted as emergencies; and  |
| 8<br>9<br>10 |   | Whereas, a recent interpretation made by the Board of Social Worker Registration could jeopardize the employment status of several hundred state em- |
| 11<br>12     |   | ployees and cause a substantial increase in costs to several state agencies; and   |
| 13<br>14     |   | Whereas, such costs are not included in the  |

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Whereas, in the judgment of the Legislature, these facts create an emergency within the meaning of the Constitution of Maine and require the following legislation as immediately necessary for the preservation of the public peace, health and safety; now, therefore,

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

9 32 MRSA \$7054-A, last 7, as enacted by PL 1985, 10 c. 736, §14, is amended to read:

Any person not eligible for licensure on the effective date of this section, but who is employed in a position in which representation is made to the public as a social worker or the title of social worker is used, shall be entitled to licensure without examination as a "licensed social worker" as long as an application, made pursuant to section 7056, is received by the board by July-1,-1987 February 1, 1988.

Emergency clause. In view of the emergency cited in the preamble, this Act shall take effect when approved.

#### STATEMENT OF FACT

This bill extends from July 1, 1987, to February 1, 1988, a deadline for allowing 500 to 600 state employees who perform some functions that, if performed outside of State Government might fall within the authority of a "licensed social worker" to receive social worker licensure without examination. This deadline was contained in Public Law 1985, chapter 736, which legislation "grandfathered" such employees from having to meet the mandatory licensing provisions of the Social Worker Registration Law. The voluntary nature of this licensing law requirement, as it relates to state employees, has existed since 1969, but has recently been called into question by the Board of Social Worker Registration.