

# MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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SECOND REGULAR SESSION

ONE HUNDRED AND THIRTEENTH LEGISLATURE

Legislative Document

No. 2091

S.P. 794 In Senate, January 19, 1988  
Approved for Introduction by a Majority of the Legislative  
Council pursuant to Joint Rule 26.

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

JOY J. O'BRIEN, Secretary of the Senate

Presented by Senator BERUBE of Androscoggin.

Cosponsored by Representative SMITH of Island Falls.

STATE OF MAINE

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

AN ACT to Extend Entitlement Programs.

1  
2

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

5 Sec. 1. 20-A MRSA §7001, sub-§2, ¶B, as enacted  
6 by PL 1981, c. 693, §§5 and 8, is amended to read:

7 B. Has not reached ~~20~~ 26 years of age at the

1 start of the school year; and

2 Sec. 2. 34-B MRSA §5609 is enacted to read:

3 §5609. Transitional services

4 1. Rehabilitation services. The Department of  
5 Mental Health and Mental Retardation, through the  
6 Bureau of Mental Retardation, shall provide those  
7 rehabilitation and vocational rehabilitation services,  
8 defined in Title 22, section 3054, subsection 8, and  
9 any other service, including, but not limited to,  
10 supported employment including work in rehabilitation  
11 facilities and work centers, as defined in Title 5,  
12 chapter 155, subchapter II; job coaching;  
13 transportation, recreational and leisure services; and  
14 respite or day programs designed in consultation with  
15 a client's parents and interdisciplinary team, as  
16 defined in section 5461, subsection 7, in order to  
17 make available services that are otherwise not  
18 obtainable to the following groups in the following  
19 order of priority:

20 A. Those young adults living at home or in  
21 unsubsidized foster care, who have left school and  
22 are not receiving any day program; and

23 B. All other young adults who have left school  
24 and are not receiving an appropriate day program.

25 2. Rules. The bureau shall promulgate rules, in  
26 accordance with the Maine Administrative Procedure  
27 Act, Title 5, chapter 375, to establish a transitional  
28 program under subsection 1, including a voucher system  
29 to allow parents and the interdisciplinary team to  
30 incorporate only those services deemed critical and  
31 otherwise unavailable into a program, including work,  
32 training and continuing education, where appropriate.

33 STATEMENT OF FACT

34 Currently, special education entitlement programs  
35 for exceptional students end when the program  
36 recipient is 20 years old. Section one of this bill,

1 extends the age of eligible recipients to persons who  
2 have not reached 26 years of age.

3 Section 2 of the bill seeks to provide needed  
4 transitional services to young adults with mental  
5 retardation who have left school and choose to reside  
6 at home or in unsubsidized foster care, but are not  
7 receiving any day program, as well as to all other  
8 individuals who are not receiving an appropriate day  
9 program. The bill also authorizes the Bureau of  
10 Mental Retardation to establish rules to provide  
11 vocational and other rehabilitation services to those  
12 individuals in need of these services, including a  
13 voucher system to allow an individual's parents and  
14 interdisciplinary team to incorporate only otherwise  
15 unavailable services into an appropriate program.

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