

MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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(EMERGENCY)
SECOND REGULAR SESSION

ONE HUNDRED AND THIRTEENTH LEGISLATURE

Legislative Document

NO. 2108

H.P. 1548 House of Representatives, January 21, 1988
Approved for introduction by a majority of the
Legislative Council pursuant to Joint Rule 26.
Reference to the Committee on Appropriations and
Financial Affairs suggested and ordered printed.
EDWIN H. PERT, Clerk
Presented by Representative PARADIS of Augusta.
Cosponsored by Representatives CARTER of Winslow, FOSTER
of Ellsworth and Senator PEARSON of Penobscot.

STATE OF MAINE

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

1 **AN ACT to Provide Prevocational Services for**
2 **Persons with Long-Term Mental Illness.**
3

4 **Emergency preamble.** Whereas, Acts of the
5 Legislature do not become effective until 90 days
6 after adjournment unless enacted as emergencies; and

7 Whereas, the 90-day period may not terminate until
8 after the beginning of the next fiscal year; and

1 in several areas of
2 the State. Work
3 training and
4 adjustment, personal
5 care and
6 communications are to
7 be included in
8 services to prepare
9 clients for
10 vocational
11 rehabilitation
12 eligibility and
13 future supportive and
14 independent
15 employment.

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

19 STATEMENT OF FACT

20 This bill provides prevocational program support
21 to the approximately 8,000 people in this State with
22 severe and prolonged mental illness. Currently,
23 relatively few of these people have access to
24 vocational rehabilitation due to the presumption that
25 they lack a high potential for successful
26 rehabilitation. The provision for prevocational
27 services is a fundamental step in assuring appropriate
28 eligibility and completion of a rehabilitation
29 program. The program support provided in this bill is
30 essential to assure the rehabilitation of persons
31 having severe and prolonged mental illness.

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