

# MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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SECOND REGULAR SESSION

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ONE HUNDRED AND THIRTEENTH LEGISLATURE

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Legislative Document

NO. 2158

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H.P. 1580

House of Representatives, February 1, 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 DIAMOND of Bangor.

Cosponsored by President PRAY of Penobscot, Senator  
PERKINS of Hancock and Representative FOSTER of Ellsworth.

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STATE OF MAINE

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

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1                    **AN ACT to Provide a More Equitable**  
2                    **Distribution of Homemaker Funds.**  
3

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

6                    **Appropriation.**            The following funds are  
7                    appropriated from the General Fund to carry out the  
8                    purposes of this Act.

2 HUMAN SERVICES,  
3 DEPARTMENT OF

## 4 Purchased Social Services

5 All Other \$227,000

6 Funds to be used to  
7 contract with  
8 community health and  
9 counseling services  
10 to deliver homemaker  
11 services in  
12 Penobscot,  
13 Piscataquis and  
14 Hancock Counties.

## 15 STATEMENT OF FACT

16 Homemaker services assist individuals and  
17 families, including the elderly and chronically ill or  
18 disabled of any age, to live and function as  
19 independently as possible in their homes. Since the  
20 inception of the federal social services block grant  
21 funding for homemaker services, as carried out by the  
22 Department of Human Services within this State,  
23 funding for homemaker services has been inequitably  
24 distributed across the State.

25 Penobscot, Piscataquis and Hancock Counties  
26 receive a grossly disproportionate amount of funding  
27 for these high demand services. This area receives  
28 the lowest per capita amount of any area in the  
29 State: \$1.30 per capita, compared to the statewide  
30 average of \$2.43 per capita.

31 Because the need for homemaker services is  
32 proportionately as high in Penobscot, Piscataquis and  
33 Hancock Counties as it is in other parts of this  
34 State, and since all citizens are entitled to equal  
35 access to those services, the purpose of this bill is  
36 to increase funding to these 3 counties up to the  
37 level of the statewide average.

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