

MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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SECOND REGULAR SESSION

ONE HUNDRED AND THIRTEENTH LEGISLATURE

Legislative Document

NO. 2307

H.P. 1678 House of Representatives, February 19, 1988
Approved for introduction by a majority of the
Legislative Council pursuant to Joint Rule 26.
Reference to the Committee on State and Local Government
suggested and ordered printed.

EDWIN H. PERT, Clerk
Presented by Representative BAKER of Portland.
Cosponsored by Senators BUSTIN of Kennebec, GILL of
Cumberland and Representative HICKEY of Augusta.

STATE OF MAINE

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

1 **AN ACT to Establish On-Site Day Care at the**
2 **Capitol Complex.**
3

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

6 **Sec. 1. 22 MRSA §8307 is enacted to read:**
7 §8307. Day care program in the capitol area

1 1. Establishment of program. The State shall
2 establish a day care program for children of state
3 employees, legislative employees and Legislators under
4 the direction of a day care director. The day care
5 director shall employ, subject to the Civil Service
6 Law, staff necessary to carry out a quality child care
7 program. The program must be licensed under section
8 8302.

9 The program shall be located in state-owned or
10 state-leased facilities in the Augusta or Hallowell
11 area. The day care center shall initially enroll at
12 least 60 children and shall be open at least between
13 the hours of 6:45 a.m. and 5:30 p.m., Monday to Friday.

14 2. Eligibility. Preference shall be given
15 applicants based on their economic need. The
16 commissioner shall promulgate rules, in accordance
17 with the Maine Administrative Procedure Act, Title 5,
18 chapter 375, for employees' eligibility for this
19 program. The rules shall include, but not be limited
20 to:

21 A. The number of children each employee may
22 enroll;

23 B. The ages of the children;

24 C. A sliding scale of fees for the program based
25 on gross family income; and

26 D. A preference system for lower-income employees.

27 3. Report. The program shall be evaluated by the
28 Office of Child Care Coordination which shall, by
29 December 1990, submit to the joint standing committees
30 of the Legislature having jurisdiction over
31 appropriations and financial affairs and human
32 resources a report on the program's operation. The
33 report shall include an analysis of expanding to
34 include an after-school program. The committees shall
35 each review the report, hold public hearings and
36 recommend any changes in legislation.

37 4. Collective bargaining. It is not the intent

1 of the Legislature in this section to limit or
2 restrict the rights of state employees to bargain
3 collectively as provided in Title 26. Nothing in this
4 section may invalidate or supersede the provisions of
5 a collective bargaining agreement between an employee
6 organization and the State.

7 **Sec. 2. Siting Study.** The Bureau of Public
8 Improvements shall report on the options for siting
9 the center to the joint standing committee of the
10 Legislature having jurisdiction over human resources
11 of the 114th Legislature not later than January 15,
12 1989.

13

STATEMENT OF FACT

14 About 1/2 of the 4,500 state employees in the
15 Augusta area are in need of some form of child care.
16 This bill establishes a pilot day care program in the
17 Augusta area for children of state employees,
18 legislative employees and Legislators. To take
19 advantage of this service, employees do not have to be
20 members of collective bargaining units. Preference
21 will be given in the program to lower-income employees
22 and fees will be based on a sliding scale. The Bureau
23 of Public Improvements shall report to the Legislature
24 within 6 months of the effective date of this bill, on
25 siting options within state-owned or state-leased
26 properties.

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