

MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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SECOND REGULAR SESSION

ONE HUNDRED AND THIRTEENTH LEGISLATURE

Legislative Document

NO. 2431

H.P. 1778 House of Representatives, March 3, 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 Speaker MARTIN of Eagle Lake.
Cosponsored by Representative CARTER of Winslow, Senators
BERUBE of Androscoggin and GILL of Cumberland.

STATE OF MAINE

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

**AN ACT to Fund a Demonstration
Teaching Nursing Home.**

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

6 **Sec. 1. 22 MRSA §1812-D is enacted to read:**

7 §1812-D. Reimbursement; geriatric training programs.

1 The Department of Human Services shall amend the
2 principles of reimbursement for long-term care
3 facilities in order that Medicaid-certified providers
4 of service are reimbursed for fees charged for
5 attendance at and materials for the educational
6 programs, as required by Title 37-B, section 602-A.

7 Sec. 2. 37-B MRSA §602-A is enacted to read:

8 §602-A. Development and implementation of geriatric
9 training programs

10 1. Cooperation. The Maine Veterans' Homes shall
11 work cooperatively with appropriate provider and
12 consumer groups, including the Department of Human
13 Services, the Maine Committee on Aging, the Maine
14 Health Care Association, the Home Care Alliance of
15 Maine and the Maine Hospital Association, in order to
16 develop and implement appropriate geriatric training
17 programs.

18 2. Manual; training and educational programs.
19 The Maine Veterans' Homes, in concert with the groups
20 listed in subsection 1, shall:

21 A. Prepare a manual on the clinical care of
22 geriatric patients, to be completed by June 30,
23 1991, with 1/3 of the manual being completed each
24 year;

25 B. Conduct a series of 12 to 14 educational
26 programs annually, in different locations of the
27 State, in order to communicate with health care
28 providers and state surveyors on the content of
29 this manual;

30 C. Prepare a series of 6 to 8 management training
31 programs for nursing personnel and conduct 12 to
32 14 educational programs annually for a period of 3
33 years leading to a formal program of certification
34 in long-term care nursing management; and

35 D. Prepare and conduct such other geriatric
36 educational programs as may be determined
37 appropriate within the limits of the funds

1 authorized for this project.

2 3. Pilot project. The Maine Veterans' Homes
3 shall establish a demonstration project utilizing the
4 concept of a teaching nursing home, in collaboration
5 with appropriate provider and consumer groups, as a
6 mechanism to increase the number of health care
7 providers with improved capabilities to deliver
8 geriatric care to the State's elderly population.

9 4. Fees. The Maine Veterans' Homes shall charge
10 fees for the educational programs and materials
11 provided under this section. The fees charged shall
12 be based on the costs of providing the educational
13 materials.

14 5. Federal funds. The Maine Veterans' Homes
15 shall work with the Department of Human Services in
16 order to obtain maximum federal financial
17 participation in fulfilling the purposes of this
18 section.

19 6. Other funding sources. The Maine Veterans'
20 Homes shall seek, in conjunction with appropriate
21 provider and consumer groups, permanent sources of
22 funding for the continuation of this demonstration
23 project on a self-sustaining basis.

24 7. Duration. The length of this demonstration
25 project shall be no longer than 3 years.

26 8. Account. The Maine Veterans' Homes shall
27 maintain in a separate account, not commingled with
28 any other sources of revenue, the funds appropriated
29 for or generated by the fulfillment of the purpose of
30 this section.

31 9. Annual report. The Maine Veterans' Homes
32 shall submit annually to the joint standing committee
33 of the Legislature having jurisdiction over human
34 resources an audited financial statement and a
35 description of program accomplishments for the
36 previous year and program goals for the succeeding
37 year.

1 10. Unused funds. At the end of the 3-year
2 demonstration period, any unused appropriation or any
3 funds generated by the educational programs authorized
4 by this section shall lapse to the General Fund of the
5 State unless the Legislature authorizes otherwise.

6 **Sec. 3. Appropriation.** The following funds are
7 appropriated from the General Fund to carry out the
8 purposes of this Act.

9 1988-89

10 MAINE VETERANS' HOME, INC.

11 All Other \$200,000

12 These funds shall be
13 used to establish, on
14 a demonstration basis,
15 a project utilizing
16 the concept of a
17 teaching nursing home,
18 in collaboration with
19 appropriate provider
20 and consumer groups,
21 as a mechanism to
22 increase the number of
23 health care providers
24 with improved
25 capabilities to
26 deliver geriatric care
27 to the State's elderly
28 population.

29 STATEMENT OF FACT

30 The purpose of this bill is to implement certain
31 of the recommendations set forth in recent legislative
32 studies and reports.

33 The Joint Select Committee on Nursing Care Needs
34 of the 112th Legislature stated in part in its report
35 of March 1986:

1 "[G]eriatric and gerontology training should be
2 required for all staff dealing with the elderly in a
3 long term care setting. These requirements can and
4 should be incorporated in training programs for long
5 term care staff."

6 A report to the Committee on Human Resources, as
7 required by Public Law 1985, chapter 738, directs the
8 Department of Human Services to work cooperatively
9 with the Maine Health Care Association to develop a
10 certification program for those who are responsible
11 for supervision of certified nurse assistants and
12 aides-in-training.

13 This bill establishes, on a 3-year demonstration
14 basis, a training program for health care providers
15 and state Medicaid surveyors. This bill requires
16 changes in the principles of reimbursement for
17 long-term care facilities to reimburse Medicaid
18 certified providers of service sending participants to
19 the programs. The bill requires that the Maine
20 Veterans' Homes prepare a manual and conduct regional
21 educational programs to improve technical and caring
22 skills of health providers caring for the State's
23 geriatric population and to enhance the capability of
24 the state Medicaid agency for effective administration
25 of the Medicaid program, as it relates to the quality
26 of care delivered by certified providers of geriatric
27 services. The bill is directed toward securing
28 permanent funding for geriatric health care provider
29 training, on a self-sustaining basis, following the
30 3-year demonstration period.

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