MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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114th MAINE LEGISLATURE

FIRST REGULAR SESSION - 1989

Legislative Document

No 100

S.P. 95

In Senate, February 7, 1989

Submitted by the Department of Human Services pursuant to Joint Rule 24. Reference to the Committee on Human Resources suggested and ordered printed.

JOY J. O'BRIEN Secretary of the Senate

Presented by Senator GILL of Cumberland.

Cosponsored by Senator GAUVREAU of Androscoggin, Representative DELLERT of Gardiner and Representative FARNSWORTH of Hallowell.

STATE OF MAINE

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

An Act to Amend the Law Regarding the Name of the Division of Eye Care.



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

3 Sec. 1. 5 MRSA §1822, as enacted by PL 1973, c. 198, is amended to read:

§1822. Blind-made products

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- A Blind-made Products Committee, comprising Purchasing Agent, the Director State of the Bureau of Rehabilitation and the Director of State the Division of-Eye-Care for the Blind and Visually Impaired, Bureau of Rehabilitation, and hereafter in sections 1822 to 1824 called "the committee," determine the price of all products which specifications prescribed by the State Purchasing Agent agreeable to all members of the committee and which manufactured by the Maine Institution for the Blind and offered sale to the State or any political subdivision, governmental agency or public benefit corporation thereof; and shall revise such prices from time to time in accordance with changing cost factors and shall make such rules and regulations regarding selection of products, time of delivery and other relevant matters as shall be necessary to carry out the purpose of sections 1822 to 1824.
- Sec. 2. 22 MRSA §3500, as amended by PL 1985, c. 785, Pt. B, §92, is further amended to read:

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§3500. Division for the Blind and Visually Impaired

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The Division ef--Eye--Care for the Blind and Visually Impaired, as heretofore established within the Department of Human Services and hereafter in this chapter called the "division," shall be under the jurisdiction of the Director of the Division ef-Eye-Care for the Blind and Visually Impaired, hereafter in this chapter called the "director." The commissioner shall appoint the director, subject to the Civil Service Law.

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Sec. 3. 22 MRSA §3500-A, as amended by PL 1981, c. 703, Pt. A, §26, is further amended to read:

§3500-A. Jurisdiction of Director of Division for the Blind and Visually Impaired, defined

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Jurisdiction of director means having direct administrative responsibility for all programs and personnel under the Division ef-Eye-Care for the Blind and Visually Impaired, sections 3500 to 3512, except section 3501-A.

- Sec. 4. 22 MRSA §3502, sub-§1, as repealed and replaced by PL 1983, c. 353, §1, is amended to read:
- 1. Division for the Blind and Visually Impaired. The Division ef-Eye-Care for the Blind and Visually Impaired shall

1	individuals from birth to age 21:
3	A. Itinerant teacher services;
5	B. Mobility instruction;
7	C. Braille instruction;
9	D. Low-vision services;
11	E. Special aids and supplies needed to participate in the
13	educational process; and
15	F. Advocacy, counseling and guidance services to students and their parents.
17	Sec. 5. 22 MRSA §3504, as amended by PL 1975, c. 293, §4, is
19	further amended to read:
21	§3504. Purpose
23	For the purpose of providing blind persons with remunerative employment, enlarging the economic opportunities of blind persons
25	and stimulating blind persons to greater efforts to make themselves self-supporting with independent livelihoods, the
27	officer, board or other authority in charge of any building or
29	property of the State, any county or municipality shall grant to the Division of Eye Care for the Blind and Visually Impaired in
31	the Department of Human Services authority to install in such buildings or such property a vending facility to be operated by a blind person duly licensed by the Division of Eye Gare for the
33	Blind and Visually Impaired whenever a vending facility may be
35	properly and satisfactorily operated by a blind person.
37	Sec. 6. 22 MRSA §3505, sub-§2, as enacted by PL 1971, c. 88 is amended to read:
39	2. Director. "Director" means the Director of the Division
41	ef-Eye-Gare for the Blind and Visually Impaired.
43	Sec. 7. 22 MRSA $\S3505$, sub- $\S3$, as amended by PL 1975, c. 293, $\S4$, is further amended to read:
45	3. Division. "Division" means the Division of-Eye-Care for
47	the Blind and Visually Impaired in the Department of Human Services.
49	Sec. 8. 22 MRSA §3505, sub-§5, as enacted by PL 1971, c. 88,
E 1	is smoothed to used.

5. Licensing agency. "Licensing agency" means the Division of-Eye-Care for the Blind and Visually Impaired which is the state agency designated by the Veeatienal Rehabilitation Services Administration in the United States Department of Health, Education and-Welfare to issue licenses to blind persons for the operation of vending facilities.

STATEMENT OF FACT

This bill reflects the change in the name of the Division of Eye Care to the Division for the Blind and Visually Impaired, making the name consistent throughout the Maine Revised Statutes.

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The name of the Division of Eye Care causes confusion among the public, professionals and other agencies as to the actual role of the division. The name should be the Division for the Blind and Visually Impaired since our mission is to serve that population. Other persons looking for help often call the division and must be redirected to other agencies. The change would help blind people find assistance more quickly, prevent the confusion of the division with the Medical Eye Care Program, Bureau of Health, and clearly communicate the purpose of the division to any interested party.