

# MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

The following document is provided by the  
**LAW AND LEGISLATIVE DIGITAL LIBRARY**  
at the Maine State Law and Legislative Reference Library  
<http://legislature.maine.gov/lawlib>



Reproduced from scanned originals with text recognition applied  
(searchable text may contain some errors and/or omissions)



# 114th MAINE LEGISLATURE

## FIRST REGULAR SESSION - 1989

---

Legislative Document

No. 647

S.P. 257

In Senate, March 7, 1989

Reference to the Committee on Appropriations and Financial Affairs suggested and ordered printed.

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Joy J. O'Brien".

JOY J. O'BRIEN  
Secretary of the Senate

Presented by Senator GILL of Cumberland.

Cosponsored by Senator BERUBE of Androscoggin, Representative MANNING of Portland and Representative LISNIK of Presque Isle.

---

### STATE OF MAINE

---

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

---

**An Act to Provide Cost-of-living Increases to Homemaker Services Providers and to Appropriate Additional Funds to Equalize Homemaker Services Funding Statewide.**

---



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

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

7 **1989-90** **1990-91**  
9 **HUMAN SERVICES, DEPARTMENT OF**

11 **Purchased Social Services**

13 All Other \$875,000 \$875,000  
15 Provides additional funds to  
17 the service providers  
19 identified, in the amounts  
21 indicated, for the following  
23 homemaker services:  
25 Androscoggin Home Health Care  
27 Services (\$135,943);  
Community Health and  
Counseling Services  
(\$227,000); DHRH Homecare  
(\$129,641); Holy Innocent  
Homecare Services (\$335,184);  
and Northeastern Maine  
Homemaker Services (\$47,232).

29 **Purchased Social Services**

31 All Other \$99,052 \$244,640  
33 Provides funds for a  
35 cost-of-living adjustment to  
37 homemaker service providers  
with which the department  
contracts.

39 **DEPARTMENT OF HUMAN SERVICES**  
41 **TOTAL** \$974,052 \$1,119,640

43 **STATEMENT OF FACT**

45  
47 Homemaker services are provided primarily to elderly and  
49 disabled individuals and individuals in need of assistance with  
parenting. Services provided by homemaker and home health aides  
include assistance with meal planning and preparation, household  
management and budgeting, adult and child protective care

1 services, emotional support and relief to primary caretakers, all  
2 with the goal of encouraging motivation toward achieving  
3 self-sufficiency and independence.

5 Due to little or no revenue increases in recent years,  
6 homemaker services to clients have continued to decline as  
7 operating costs and inflation have increased. Because homemaker  
8 services are recognized as an important part of the State's  
9 service continuum to families, the disabled and the elderly to  
10 live and function as independently as possible, it is necessary  
11 to provide adequate state levels of financial support. It is  
12 also critical that existing funding levels not be allowed to  
13 erode further due to inflation.

15 In addition, there has been an historic inequity in the  
16 distribution of homemaker funds throughout the State. Using 1986  
17 population figures published by the Office of Vital Statistics,  
18 the Department of Human Services' Bureau of Social Services'  
19 spending for homemaker services was \$2.43 per capita. Among the  
20 5 homemaker programs statewide, the per capita expenditure ranged  
21 from a low of \$1.30 to a high of \$3.95.

23 While certain factors such as geography and population  
24 density affect such per capita spending, there still remains an  
25 imbalance. Therefore, this bill also seeks an additional  
26 appropriation of \$875,000 to correct this inequitable problem  
27 while also restoring service levels to needy and eligible Maine  
28 residents.

29 All funds appropriated in this bill shall be made available  
30 to homemaker service providers and incorporated into future  
31 Department of Human Services Part I budget requests.

33