MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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114th MAINE LEGISLATURE

FIRST REGULAR SESSION - 1989

Legislative Document

No. 796

S.P. 298

In Senate, March 15, 1989

Reference to the Committee on Legal Affairs suggested and ordered printed.

JOY J. O'BRIEN Secretary of the Senate

Presented by Senator HOBBINS of York.

Cosponsored by Senator GAUVREAU of Androscoggin, Representative PARADIS of Augusta and Representative CONLEY of Portland.

STATE OF MAINE

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

An Act to Remove the Present Dollar Limit on Funeral, Cremation and Burial Expenses Relative to Restitution by Criminal Offenders.



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

17-A MRSA §1322, sub-§3, ¶A, as enacted by PL 1977, c. 455, §3, is amended to read:

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Allowable expense. "Allowable expense" means reasonable charges incurred for reasonably needed products, services and accommodations, including those for medical care, rehabilitation, rehabilitative occupational training other remedial treatment and care, and nonmedical remedial care and treatment rendered in accordance with a recognized religious method of healing. The term includes a--total eharge-net-in-excess-of-\$500 reasonable charges incurred for expenses in any way related to funeral, cremation and burial. It does not include that portion of a charge for a room in a hospital, clinic, convalescent or nursing home, or any other institution engaged in providing nursing care and related services, in excess of a reasonable and customary for semiprivate accommodations, unless accommodations are medically required.

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STATEMENT OF FACT

This bill amends the definition of "allowable expense" to replace the present dollar limit relative to funeral, cremation and burial expenses with the condition that such expenses constitute "reasonable charges." Funeral, cremation and burial expenses have increased significantly since this dollar amount was established in Public Law 1977, chapter 455, section 3.

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