

MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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114th MAINE LEGISLATURE

FIRST REGULAR SESSION - 1989

Legislative Document

No. 1601

S.P. 573

In Senate, May 10, 1989

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 Representative MANNING of Portland, Senator BUSTIN of Kennebec and Representative PENDLETON of Scarborough.

STATE OF MAINE

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

An Act to Initiate Therapeutic Group Homes.

(EMERGENCY)



1 **Emergency preamble.** Whereas, Acts of the Legislature do not
2 become effective until 90 days after adjournment unless enacted
3 as emergencies; and

4 Whereas, there are many children in need of supervision and
5 treatment outside the home for whom placements are currently
6 unavailable; and

7 Whereas, many of these children are in desperate need of the
8 structure of a therapeutic group home, but there are no such
9 placements available for them in Maine; and

10 Whereas, many of these children would benefit from placement
11 with a foster family if adequate training and support services
12 were made available to foster parents to establish such homes; and

13 Whereas, in the judgment of the Legislature, these facts
14 create an emergency within the meaning of the Constitution of
15 Maine and require the following legislation as immediately
16 necessary for the preservation of the public peace, health and
17 safety; now, therefore,

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

19 **Sec. 1. 34-B MRSA §6201, sub-§1-A is enacted to read:**

20 1-A. Child in need of supervision. "Child in need of
21 supervision" means a child up to 18 years of age who may benefit
22 from services and who is:

23 A. Runaway or homeless;

24 B. Repeatedly aggressive toward family members or property;

25 C. Repeatedly disobedient to reasonable and proper orders
26 of a parent, guardian or other custodian or who is beyond
27 the control of a parent, guardian or other custodian;

28 D. Truant;

29 E. Not currently or consistently being served optimally by
30 the system or agency with whom the child is involved;

31 F. Not voluntarily accepting services; or

32 G. Is in a family at risk.

33 **Sec. 2. 34-B MRSA §6204, sub-§1, ¶B, as enacted by PL 1985, c.**
34 **503, §12, is amended to read:**

35 B. Facilitate the planning, promoting, coordination,
36 delivery and evaluation of a complete and integrated

1 statewide system of services to children in need of
treatment and their families; and

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5 **Sec. 3. 34-B MRSA §6204, sub-§1, ¶C**, as amended by PL 1987, c.
349, Pt. H, §27, is further amended to read:

7 C. Support those services appropriate to children in need
of treatment and their families, including, but not
9 necessarily limited to, the following:

- 11 (1) Advocacy;
- 13 (2) Assessment and diagnosis;
- 15 (3) Child development;
- 17 (4) Consultation and education;
- 19 (5) Crisis intervention;
- 21 (6) Family guidance and counseling;
- 23 (7) Preventive intervention;
- 25 (8) Professional consultation and training;
- 27 (9) Respite care and other family support services; and
- 29 (10) Treatment; and

31 **Sec. 4. 34-B MRSA §6204, sub-§1, ¶D** is enacted to read:

33 D. Ensure that services are available to address the
35 problems of children in need of supervision.

37 (1) The bureau shall provide or arrange for the
39 provision of at least the following services:

41 (a) Administrative services; and

43 (b) Services delivery systems, including:

45 (i) Evaluation and assessment services;

47 (ii) Respite care and other family support
49 services;

51 (iii) Homeless shelters and emergency
53 shelters; and

55 (iv) Therapeutic group homes.

57 **Emergency clause.** In view of the emergency cited in the
preamble, this Act shall take effect when approved.

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STATEMENT OF FACT

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The purpose of this bill is reflected in the emergency preamble.