

MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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114th MAINE LEGISLATURE

FIRST REGULAR SESSION - 1989

Legislative Document

No. 1609

H.P. 1155

House of Representatives, May 10, 1989

Reference to the Committee on Human Resources suggested and ordered printed.

Ed Pert

EDWIN H. PERT, Clerk

Presented by Representative TELOW of Lewiston.

Cosponsored by Senator DUTREMBLE of York, Representative GWADOSKY of Fairfield and Representative CLARK of Brunswick.

STATE OF MAINE

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

**An Act to Require Annual Cost-of-living Increases to Certain
Residential Group Care Providers.**



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

3 **22 MRSA §8152, sub-§4-B** is enacted to read:

5 4-B. Cost-of-living adjustment for nonprofit community
7 residential group care. The Department of Human Services shall
9 include in its yearly Part I budget request to the Legislature a
11 cost-of-living adjustment for nonprofit community residential
13 group care programs with which it contracts or which it
15 reimburses on a fee-for-service basis.

17 A. The cost-of-living adjustment shall be calculated based
19 on the percentage change in the federal Consumer Price Index
21 over the previous year.

23 B. The cost-of-living adjustment shall be in addition to,
25 and not a substitute for, other legitimate funding increases
27 for reasonable operating costs and other increased
29 expenditures needed to maintain quality community
31 residential group care services in Maine.

33 C. This subsection shall govern the submission of the
35 budget requests beginning with the department's Part I
37 budget request to the Second Regular Session of the 114th
39 Legislature.

41 **STATEMENT OF FACT**

43 Residential group care providers throughout Maine serve
45 children up to 18 years of age that have been neglected or
47 physically, emotionally or sexually abused. Many such children
are served through fee-for-service reimbursements or contracts
with the Department of Human Services. The department acts as
the referral source for these children since the children are
clients of the department.

During the past several years, nonprofit residential group
care providers have received few increases in their
fee-for-service reimbursement rates or contracts, although costs
to the programs have continued to increase due to inflation,
insurance, staff retention, food, utilities and other operating
costs.

This bill attempts to prevent funding erosion through the
mechanism of planned cost-of-living increases in the yearly Part
I budget of the Department of Human Services.