

MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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114th MAINE LEGISLATURE

FIRST REGULAR SESSION - 1989

Legislative Document

No. 1614

H.P. 1160

House of Representatives, May 10, 1989

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

Ed Pert

EDWIN H. PERT, Clerk

Presented by Representative LISNIK of Presque Isle.

Cosponsored by Speaker MARTIN of Eagle Lake and Senator PEARSON of Penobscot.

STATE OF MAINE

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

**An Act to appropriate Funds for a Demonstration Project for the
Benefit of Alzheimer's Disease Victims.**



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 **Bureau of Maine's Elderly**

13 All Other \$790,704 \$1,426,960
15 Provides funds to create a
17 system of care in Aroostook
19 County for victims of
21 Alzheimer's disease and their
23 families in 3 distinct
25 phases. Implementation of
27 Phase I will begin in fiscal
29 year 1989-90 and will involve
31 the development of a
33 diagnostic and assessment
35 clinic headed by a team of
37 professionals as well as care
39 providers. The funds
41 reflected in fiscal year
43 1990-91 represent the
continuation of Phase I
objectives and implementation
of Phase II - establishment
of day care and nursing home
services in several nursing
homes or boarding homes, or
both, throughout the county
to serve between 4 and 15
persons at each location, as
well as completion of an
inpatient Alzheimer's needs
assessment in preparation for
the construction of an
Alzheimer's Center.

45 **FISCAL NOTE**

47 The appropriation included in this legislation will provide
49 funds to implement Phases I and II of a 3-phase project. The
51 costs to implement Phase III in the 3rd and 4th years of the
project are estimated to be \$5,837,597. This amount includes the
continuation of services established in the first 2 phases and
represents the estimated costs to construct an Alzheimer's Center

1 to accommodate 40 residents, as well as some day care and
educational services.

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STATEMENT OF FACT

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Alzheimer's disease, a form of dementia, has become a predominant illness with approximately 1,500,000 victims in the United States. Extrapolated national statistics conservatively indicate there are more than 500 Alzheimer's victims in various stages of the disease in Aroostook County.

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This terminal disease requires proportionally increasing amounts of services necessitating a high degree of cooperation between professionals, families and communities.

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Existing home-based, skilled, intermediate and boarding-home care programs unfortunately cannot meet these demands nor have the resources to expand their in-patient services. The Alzheimer's support groups consisting of family members and a few professionals have been the only organized effort to address the needs of Alzheimer's victims and their loved ones. A group of major care providers in Aroostook County, in response to this support group's efforts, proposed the development of a comprehensive treatment program.

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The goal of this program is to create a countywide system of care for victims of Alzheimer's disease and their families in 3 distinct phases. Phase I involves the development of a diagnostic and assessment clinic headed by a team of professionals consisting of nursing, medical, psychiatric, neurological, social work, occupational therapy and nutrition specialists.

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There are 2 objectives in the implementation of Phase II. As an adjunct to Phase I, day care and nursing home services would be established in several selected nursing or boarding home facilities throughout the county to serve between 4 and 15 people at each location. The 2nd objective is completion of an in-patient Alzheimer's needs assessment in preparation for the construction of an Alzheimer's Center which would provide a wide scope of services.

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Phase III would be based on the continuation of services established in the first 2 phases. The proposed Alzheimer's Center would provide: day-care services; family support groups; nursing home care; practical training programs for care providers of day care and nursing home facilities throughout the county; an education resource center; and respite care.