

MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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116th MAINE LEGISLATURE

FIRST REGULAR SESSION-1993

Legislative Document

No. 5

S.P. 15

In Senate, January 5, 1993

Reference to the Committee on Human Resources 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 VOSE of Washington

Cosponsored by Representative TOWNSEND of Eastport and Representative DRISCOLL of Calais.

STATE OF MAINE

IN THE YEAR OF OUR LORD
NINETEEN HUNDRED AND NINETY-THREE

**An Act Concerning Private Agencies That Have Contracts with the
Department of Human Services.**

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

Sec. 1. 22 MRSA §12, as enacted by PL 1973, c. 410, is repealed and the following enacted in its place:

§12. Funds for social services

1. Authorization. The department shall administer any funds that are available from private, local, state or federal sources for the provision of social services defined by the department. To the extent allowed by the funding source, the department may provide social services, may purchase services through contracts or grants and may provide services jointly with other governmental or nongovernmental agencies through interagency agreements.

2. Rules. The department shall adopt rules to implement this section, including, but not limited to, rules that address eligibility for services, contractual terms, conditions for grants, matching ratios and quality of performance. The rules must be adopted in accordance with Title 5, chapter 375 and include the following.

A. A nongovernmental agency that enters into a contract or other agreement with the department or receives a grant from the department to provide social services to citizens must have a telephone system that enables citizens to call the agency free of charge.

STATEMENT OF FACT

This bill requires the Department of Human Services to adopt rules requiring social service agencies that do business with the department to have toll-free telephone systems so that applicants and recipients have free telephone access to the agencies.

The bill also removes a redundant phrase from the statutes and makes other clarifying changes.