

# MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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# 116th MAINE LEGISLATURE

FIRST REGULAR SESSION-1993

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Legislative Document

No. 641

H.P. 483

House of Representatives, February 23, 1993

**An Act to Equalize Mental Health Funding Across Regions.**

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

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Joseph W. Mayo".

JOSEPH W. MAYO, Clerk

Presented by Representative PLOWMAN of Hampden.  
Cosponsored by Representative COFFMAN of Old Town and  
Representatives: CATHCART of Orono, GRAY of Sedgwick, MORRISON of Bangor.

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

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Sec. 1. Equalization of funding across regions. By July 1, 1996, the Commissioner of Mental Health and Mental Retardation shall ensure that funding for mental health services that is distributed by the Department of Mental Health and Mental Retardation is distributed among the service delivery regions described in the Maine Revised Statutes, Title 34-B, section 1201-A in a manner that results in each region receiving the same amount per person with mental illness in the region. To achieve equalization, the commissioner shall employ the following methods.

1. New funds that become available must be distributed in a manner that diminishes the current funding inequity.

2. If funding reductions are required, they must be implemented in a manner that diminishes the current funding inequity.

3. Existing funds must be transferred among regions to diminish the current funding inequity.

#### STATEMENT OF FACT

This bill requires the Department of Mental Health and Mental Retardation to equalize mental health funding across the service delivery regions by July 1, 1996.