

MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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116th MAINE LEGISLATURE

FIRST REGULAR SESSION-1993

Legislative Document

No. 690

S.P. 219

In Senate, February 25, 1993

An Act Related to Special Education Costs.

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

A handwritten signature in cursive script, reading "Joy J. O'Brien".

JOY J. O'BRIEN
Secretary of the Senate

Presented by Senator BRANNIGAN of Cumberland.
Cosponsored by Senator PARADIS of Aroostook and
Representative: CARROLL of Gray.

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

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Sec. 1. Medicaid funding for certain special education costs. The Director of the Bureau of Medical Services within the Department of Human Services shall consult with the Director of the Division of Special Education within the Department of Education and, by January 1, 1994, shall seek an amendment to the state Medicaid plan that expands Medicaid eligibility under the eligibility option known as the "Ribicoff option" for residential treatment services recommended by a pupil evaluation team. The amendment to the state Medicaid plan must include, but is not limited to, the creation of a residential treatment center category within the private nonmedical institution option. Eligibility rules for this category must be drafted by the Bureau of Medical Services with the advice of the Division of Special Education.

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Sec. 2. Report. By February 1, 1994, the Department of Human Services shall submit a report to the Joint Standing Committee on Education and the Joint Standing Committee on Human Resources regarding its activities under this Act.

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STATEMENT OF FACT

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Under the "Ribicoff option," some children may be eligible for Medicaid services when they are living away from home, such as at a residential treatment center. The State's Medicaid program recently exercised the Ribicoff option. This bill directs the Department of Human Services to work with the Department of Education to identify and implement expanded Ribicoff applications.