

# MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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# 116th MAINE LEGISLATURE

## FIRST REGULAR SESSION-1993

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Legislative Document

No. 1493

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H.P. 1106

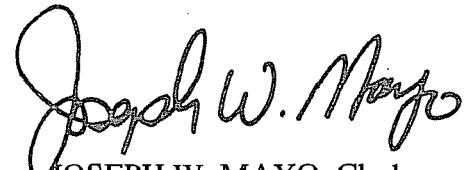
House of Representatives, May 12, 1993

**An Act to Enable the Creation of the Volunteer Social Workers' Project.**

(AFTER DEADLINE)

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Approved for introduction by a majority of the Legislative Council pursuant to Joint Rule 27.  
Reference to the Committee on Business Legislation suggested and ordered printed.

  
JOSEPH W. MAYO, Clerk

Presented by Representative BRENNAN of Portland.  
Cosponsored by Representatives: BRUNO of Raymond, FAIRCLOTH of Bangor,  
FITZPATRICK of Durham, HOGLUND of Portland, JOHNSON of South Portland, LIBBY of  
Buxton, ROWE of Portland, RYDELL of Brunswick, ST. ONGE of Greene, Senators:  
BRANNIGAN of Cumberland, CIANCHETTE of Somerset, CONLEY of Cumberland,  
PARADIS of Aroostook.

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

Sec. 1. 32 MRSA §7031 is enacted to read:

**§7031. Volunteer Social Workers' Project**

The board shall contract with a statewide agency or entity that represents social workers to establish and administer the Volunteer Social Workers' Project. The project shall, pursuant to the contract and in accordance with procedures and protocols developed by the project and approved by the board, match persons referred by social service agencies and providers with social workers who have agreed to provide their services on a pro bono basis. In addition, the project shall develop opportunities for social workers to participate on a pro bono basis in community organization activities. The project must be funded from surcharges and fees set in section 7056. The project may also accept gifts, grants or other income from outside sources to supplement this funding.

Sec. 2. 32 MRSA §7056, as amended by PL 1987, c. 113, §2, is further amended to read:

**§7056. Application; fees**

Application ~~An application~~ for a license as a licensed clinical, licensed master or licensed social worker shall must be on a form prescribed and furnished by the board. An application fee and an examination fee may be established by the board in amounts ~~which~~ that are reasonable and necessary for their respective purposes. All fees shall must accompany the application.

The board shall establish the license fee for a licensed social worker shall-be-established-by-the-board in an amount not to exceed \$70 \$85.

The board shall establish the license fee for a licensed master social worker shall-be-established-by-the-board in an amount not to exceed \$110 \$125.

The board shall establish the license fee for a licensed clinical social worker shall-be-established-by-the-board in an amount not to exceed \$175 \$190.

Fifteen dollars of each of the fees established by this section must be utilized by the board for the operation of the Volunteer Social Workers' Project established pursuant to section 7031.

Fees for initial and renewal licenses shall must be set so that total fee receipts do not exceed the amount required to cover properly the expense of performing the duties imposed upon the board.

2 If the board denies the issuance of a license to any  
3 applicant, the application and examination fees shall--be are  
4 nonrefundable.

6 **Sec. 3. Surcharge established.** The State Board of Social  
7 Worker Licensure shall, within 30 days of the effective date of  
8 this Act, assess a \$15 surcharge on licensed social workers,  
9 master social workers and clinical social workers. Payment of  
10 the surcharge is a condition of continued licensure. The income  
11 from the surcharge must be used by the board to provide start-up  
12 funding for the Volunteer Social Workers' Project.

#### 14 STATEMENT OF FACT

16 This bill establishes the Volunteer Social Workers' Project,  
17 which will be operated by a statewide agency representing social  
18 workers under a contract with the State Board of Social Worker  
19 Licensure.

20 The project matches persons and organizations that need  
21 services with social workers who have agreed to provide services  
22 on a pro bono basis. Start-up funds for the project are provided  
23 by a one-time surcharge on social worker licenses of \$15 and  
24 ongoing funding will be provided by increasing the fee for those  
25 licenses by \$15.