MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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119th MAINE LEGISLATURE

FIRST REGULAR SESSION-1999

Legislative Document

No. 1378

H.P. 980

House of Representatives, February 18, 1999

An Act to Ensure Access to Long-term Care Services for Persons with Dementia.

Reference to the Committee on Health and Human Services suggested and ordered printed.

OSEPH W. MAYO, Clerk

Presented by Representative COWGER of Hallowell.
Cosponsored by Senator PARADIS of Aroostook and
Representatives: BROOKS of Winterport, COLWELL of Gardiner, DUGAY of Cherryfield,
KANE of Saco, SNOWE-MELLO of Poland, Senators: GOLDTHWAIT of Hancock,
KILKELLY of Lincoln, TREAT of Kennebec.

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

Sec. 1. 22 MRSA §3174-I, sub-§1, ¶B-3 is enacted to read:

B-3. In order to ensure access to appropriate long-term care services for persons with dementia, the department shall include in its medical eligibility assessment criteria a definition of "problem behavior" to mean any one of the following 5 types of behavior: wandering with no rational purpose, being verbally abusive, being physically abusive, displaying socially inappropriate or disruptive behavior or resisting care. The department also shall include a provision that a threshold score for problem behavior on the eligibility assessment form is equal to a score of 2 if at least one of these 5 types of behavior is displayed at least 3 times per week and a score of 3 if at least one of these 5 types of behavior is displayed at least 5 types 6 ty

SUMMARY

In order to ensure access to appropriate long-term care services for persons with dementia, this bill requires the Department of Human Services to include in its medical eligibility assessment criteria a certain definition of the term "problem behavior."