

# MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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# 120th MAINE LEGISLATURE

## FIRST REGULAR SESSION-2001

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Legislative Document

No. 218

S.P. 50

In Senate, January 18, 2001

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### An Act to Ensure Statewide Assistance to Maine's Homeless Youth.

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Reference to the Committee on Appropriations and Financial Affairs 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 LONGLEY of Waldo.  
Cosponsored by Representative BROOKS of Winterport and  
Senators: BROMLEY of Cumberland, CATHCART of Penobscot, GAGNON of Kennebec,  
ROTUNDO of Androscoggin, TREAT of Kennebec, Representatives: DUGAY of  
Cherryfield, JONES of Greenville, KANE of Saco.

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

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Sec. 1. 22 MRSA §4099, as enacted by PL 1999, c. 778, §2, is repealed.

Sec. 2. 22 MRSA §4099-A is enacted to read:

**§4099-A. Homeless youth programs**

The department shall establish homeless youth programs to provide services to youth who are homeless or at risk of becoming homeless and their families. The following provisions apply to the programs.

1. Statewide assistance. The programs must provide statewide assistance to youth and their families in the 3 regions of the State through contracts that create partnerships of public, private and community-based organizations. The programs must operate in conjunction with the Youth in Need of Services Pilot Program established in section 4096.

2. Services. The services provided by the programs must include assessments of need, safety planning and determinations of whether a youth is in imminent danger. Optional services that a program may determine to provide, based on local need and local resources, include but are not limited to housing, education, food, medical care, mental health and substance abuse services and treatment and mediation services.

**Sec. 3. Report.** By March 1, 2002, the Department of Human Services shall report on the homeless youth programs established under the Maine Revised Statutes, Title 22, section 4099-A to the Joint Standing Committee on Health and Human Services. The report must include an analysis of unmet needs and a recommendation for future action.

**Sec. 4. Appropriation.** The following funds are appropriated from the General Fund to carry out the purposes of this Act.

2001-02                      2002-03

**HUMAN SERVICES, DEPARTMENT OF**

**Purchased Social Services**

All Other	\$1,000,000	\$700,000
Provides funding for homeless youth programs, of which in fiscal year 2001-02 \$300,000		

2 will fund program expenses in  
3 Region II, and the remainder  
4 of which must be divided  
5 equally among the 3 regions.  
6 In year 2002-03, the funding  
7 of \$700,000 will be divided  
8 equally among the 3 regions.

## 10 SUMMARY

12 This bill establishes homeless youth programs within the  
13 Department of Human Services to provide assistance to youths and  
14 their families based on a community needs and resources model.  
15 The bill appropriates \$1,000,000 in fiscal year 2001-02 and  
16 \$700,000 in fiscal year 2002-03. The bill requires a report on  
17 the programs to the Joint Standing Committee on Health and Human  
18 Services by March 1, 2002. The bill repeals the provision of the  
19 Maine Revised Statutes, Title 22, section 4099 that sunsets the  
20 Youth in Need of Services Pilot Program on July 1, 2001.