

MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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122nd MAINE LEGISLATURE

FIRST REGULAR SESSION-2005

Legislative Document

No. 707

H.P. 502

House of Representatives, February 10, 2005

An Act To Improve Care for Adults with Mental Retardation

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

Millicent M. MacFarland
MILLICENT M. MacFARLAND
Clerk

Presented by Representative THOMAS of Ripley.
Cosponsored by Senator DAVIS of Piscataquis and
Representatives: ANNIS of Dover-Foxcroft, AUSTIN of Gray, CURLEY of Scarborough,
JOY of Crystal, LINDELL of Frankfort, RICHARDSON of Carmel.

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

4 **Sec. 1. 34-B MRSA §5438** is enacted to read:

6 **§5438. Residential services**

8 In providing residential services to a person with mental
10 retardation, whether directly or by contractual or other
12 agreement, the department shall give preference to residential
14 services provided in private homes over residential services
16 provided in privately operated or agency-operated residential
18 care facilities. The department shall undertake an initiative to
20 provide information to the public regarding opportunities for
22 providing residential services for persons with mental
24 retardation, including training on mental retardation and the
26 requirements for obtaining approval as a private home provider of
28 residential services.

30 **SUMMARY**

32 This bill directs the Department of Health and Human
34 Services to give preference to residential services provided in
36 private homes over residential services provided in privately
38 operated or agency-operated residential care facilities. It
40 directs the department to undertake an initiative to provide
information to the public regarding opportunities for providing
residential services for persons with mental retardation,
including training on mental retardation and the requirements for
obtaining approval as a private home provider of residential
services.