

MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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123rd MAINE LEGISLATURE

FIRST REGULAR SESSION-2007

Legislative Document

No. 755

H.P. 576

House of Representatives, February 13, 2007

An Act To Ensure the Success of All Maine Families through Early Care and Education

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

Millicent M. MacFarland
MILLICENT M. MacFARLAND
Clerk

Presented by Representative FAIRCLOTH of Bangor.
Cosponsored by President EDMONDS of Cumberland and
Representatives: CONOVER of Oakland, CRAVEN of Lewiston, GROSE of Woolwich,
PINGREE of North Haven, Senators: BARTLETT of Cumberland, MITCHELL of Kennebec.

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

2 **Sec. 1. Appropriations and allocations.** The following appropriations and
3 allocations are made.

4 **HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES, DEPARTMENT OF**

5 **Purchased Social Services 0228**

6 Initiative: Appropriates funds on an ongoing basis to increase the quality of child care
7 throughout Maine through the establishment and maintenance of a quality rating system.

8

9 GENERAL FUND	2007-08	2008-09
10 All Other	\$1,500,000	\$1,500,000
11		
12 GENERAL FUND TOTAL	<u>\$1,500,000</u>	<u>\$1,500,000</u>

13 **Purchased Social Services 0228**

14 Initiative: Appropriates funds on a one-time basis to update and develop new core
15 curricula used as the basis for providing community-level training and professional
16 development for center-based and family child care providers.

17

18 GENERAL FUND	2007-08	2008-09
19 All Other	\$51,000	\$0
20		
21 GENERAL FUND TOTAL	<u>\$51,000</u>	<u>\$0</u>

22 **Purchased Social Services 0228**

23 Initiative: Appropriates funds on an ongoing basis to increase the capacity of regional
24 Child Care Resource Development Centers to provide comprehensive training and
25 professional development to child care providers and to implement the new core curricula
26 without having to eliminate existing training.

27

28 GENERAL FUND	2007-08	2008-09
29 All Other	\$60,000	\$60,000
30		
31 GENERAL FUND TOTAL	<u>\$60,000</u>	<u>\$60,000</u>

32 **Purchased Social Services 0228**

33 Initiative: Appropriates funds on an ongoing basis to fund an increase to 40 hours per
34 week the hours worked by early care and educational specialists at regional Child Care
35 Resource Development Centers and to fund an increase in their compensation.

36

1	GENERAL FUND	2007-08	2008-09
2	All Other	\$100,000	\$100,000
3			
4	GENERAL FUND TOTAL	<u>\$100,000</u>	<u>\$100,000</u>

5 **Purchased Social Services 0228**

6 Initiative: Appropriates funds on an ongoing basis to increase the capacity of regional
7 Child Care Resource Development Centers to provide parents with support and education
8 in finding, choosing and retaining appropriate out-of-home care for their children.

9			
10	GENERAL FUND	2007-08	2008-09
11	All Other	\$125,000	\$125,000
12			
13	GENERAL FUND TOTAL	<u>\$125,000</u>	<u>\$125,000</u>

14 **Purchased Social Services 0228**

15 Initiative: Appropriates funds on an ongoing basis to increase the capacity of regional
16 Child Care Resource Development Centers to stimulate local employers, schools and
17 communities to work together in supporting the community need for adequate and
18 appropriate child care.

19			
20	GENERAL FUND	2007-08	2008-09
21	All Other	\$125,000	\$125,000
22			
23	GENERAL FUND TOTAL	<u>\$125,000</u>	<u>\$125,000</u>

24 **Purchased Social Services 0228**

25 Initiative: Appropriates funds on an ongoing basis for increased funding for the Child
26 Care Plus ME program to continue to provide the current level of services, expand the
27 number of children supported by removing income eligibility barriers and fund provider
28 and program supports.

29			
30	GENERAL FUND	2007-08	2008-09
31	All Other	\$500,000	\$500,000
32			
33	GENERAL FUND TOTAL	<u>\$500,000</u>	<u>\$500,000</u>

34 **Purchased Social Services 0228**

35 Initiative: Appropriates funds on an ongoing basis to track and report on the efficiency
36 and effectiveness of the State's investment in early care and education.

37

1	GENERAL FUND	2007-08	2008-09
2	All Other	\$125,000	\$125,000
3			
4	GENERAL FUND TOTAL	<u>\$125,000</u>	<u>\$125,000</u>

5 **Community Services Center 0845**

6 Initiative: Appropriates funds on an ongoing basis for an additional Public Service
7 Coordinator I position in the Community Services Center to administer the child care
8 system in Maine.

9			
10	GENERAL FUND	2007-08	2008-09
11	POSITIONS - LEGISLATIVE COUNT	1.000	1.000
12	Personal Services	\$75,000	\$75,000
13	All Other	\$7,500	\$5,000
14			
15	GENERAL FUND TOTAL	<u>\$82,500</u>	<u>\$80,000</u>

16 **HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES,**
17 **DEPARTMENT OF**

18	DEPARTMENT TOTALS	2007-08	2008-09
19	GENERAL FUND	\$2,668,500	\$2,615,000
20			
21	DEPARTMENT TOTAL - ALL FUNDS	<u>\$2,668,500</u>	<u>\$2,615,000</u>

22 **SUMMARY**

23 This bill appropriates funds on a one-time and ongoing basis to increase the quality of
24 child care services in Maine by identifying and implementing best practices and by
25 addressing current limits on access to high-quality care based on a parent's ability to pay.