

MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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Sixty-Eighth Legislature.

HOUSE.

No. 89.

STATE OF MAINE.

RESOLVE in favor of Children's Aid Society of Maine.

Resolved, That the sum of fifteen hundred dollars be and
2 hereby is appropriated from the treasury of the State of
3 Maine, to the Children's Aid Society of Maine, for the pur-
4 pose of aiding and enlarging its work at the Girls' Home
5 located at Belfast, said sum to be expended under the direc-
6 tion of the executive committee of said society.

Seven hundred fifty dollars of the above appropriation to
8 be paid to the treasurer of said society in the year 1897;
9 and seven hundred fifty in the year 1898.

Also that the further sum of five hundred dollars be appro-
11 priated from the treasury of the State of Maine for repairs
12 on the buildings of Girls' Home located at Belfast, and
13 held in trust for the State by the Children's Aid Society of

14 Maine. Said sum to be expended under the direction of
15 the executive committee of said society.

STATE OF MAINE.

IN HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES,
February 15, 1897.

Reported by Mr. WILLIAMS of Augusta, from Committee on Financial
Affairs, and ordered printed under joint rules.

W. S. COTTON, *Clerk.*

STATEMENT OF FACTS TO ACCOMPANY HOUSE
DOCUMENT No. 89.

The Children's Aid Society of Maine was incorporated by act of legislature of 1893. The purpose as stated in the act is, "an association for charitable and benevolent purposes, with full power to establish and maintain a home, or homes in Maine for friendless, destitute and needy children and for furnishing them with relief and assistance, together with suitable mental and moral training."

A home for the use of the Society, situated on Northport Avenue in Belfast, was purchased by means of an appropriation from the legislature in 1895, and contributed funds. The Society holds this Home in trust for the State. It was opened November 5, 1895, and is operated at present by one Matron and an assistant Matron and is cared for by a "House-Supply Committee" consisting of twelve ladies residing in Belfast.

The current expenses of the Home have been derived from voluntary contributions, and have amounted to \$90 a year per capita, for the average number of children that have been in the Home during the year. Girls are received from all parts of the State on equal terms, viz: gratuitously, unless they are paupers, in which case a charge is made to the town sending them.

During the first year the Home was opened, twenty-three needy girls were received into it from nine counties in the State, and seven other children have been cared for.

The Society is non-sectarian and non-political. It is under the management of persons from nearly all religious denominations and of all political faiths. Its benefits have been enjoyed in nine of the counties, and are available for all counties and towns of the State. Girls who would otherwise grow up in poverty, and possibly in shame, are here provided with a comfortable moral and educational home.

This Society is unable to provide for all such needy girls in our State with its limited funds. It therefore comes to the legislature with this appeal for an appropriation, which has already been favorably reported by the committee on finances, to enable it to extend its work and save more of the young girls in our State to honorable and worthy lives.