

MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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SEVENTY-EIGHTH LEGISLATURE

HOUSE

NO. 439

House of Representatives, March 1, 1917.

Printed under joint rules.

W. R. ROIX, Clerk.

Presented by Mr. Nicholas of Eastport.

STATE OF MAINE

IN THE YEAR OF OUR LORD ONE THOUSAND NINE
HUNDRED AND SEVENTEEN

RESOLVE making appropriation for the expenses for the work of the State Board of Charities and Corrections prescribed by law for the years 1917 and 1918.

Resolved, That there be, and hereby is, appropriated the
2 sum of eight thousand dollars (\$8,000.00) for the year 1917,
3 to pay the expenses of the members of the state board of
4 charities and corrections, the salaries and travelling ex-
5 penses of its secretary and agents, for office supplies and
6 equipment, postage, printing and all other expenses properly
7 incident to the work which the board is by law required to
8 perform; and that any balance of this appropriation remain-

9 ing unexpended at the end of that year shall be available for
10 expenditure during the year 1918; and be it further

Resolved, That there be, and hereby is, appropriated the
2 further sum of eight thousand dollars (\$8,000.00) for the
3 year 1918, to be used for like purposes.

STATEMENT OF FACTS.

The state board of charities and corrections is required by law, not only to inspect private charitable organizations receiving state aid, but also all state charitable and correctional institutions, all county correctional institutions, all municipal charitable and correctional institutions, all private institutions receiving municipal appropriations, to compile statistics in relation to poor relief, to supervise the work of agents for the protection of children, and to issue licenses to children's homes and boarding houses, and to maternity hospitals. It is manifestly unjust, therefore, to deduct expenses of the board from the appropriation in aid of private charitable institutions and thus make them pay for supervision of numerous other institutions and activities which contribute nothing to the work done. Therefore, this appropriation is asked for in lieu of the pro rata deduction from other appropriations now allowed by law.

Furthermore, it is absolutely impossible to do the work which the law requires with the limited force available under the present annual allowance of six thousand dollars (\$6,000.00). An increase of appropriation to eight thousand dollars (\$8,000.00) is asked for in order that the board may employ an assistant to the secretary competent to make some of the inspections of the smaller institutions, to have charge of the children's work and records which are growing in importance, an additional clerk in the office, the purchase of additional office equipment in the line of filing cases, etc., which will be required during the next two years on account of the growth of the work in the department. In this connection it should be remembered that no member of the board receives any compensation for his or her services, simply reimbursement for money actually expended for travelling expenses.