

MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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N I N E T Y - T H I R D L E G I S L A T U R E

Legislative Document

No. 148

H. P. 157

House of Representatives, January 22, 1947

Referred to Committee on Claims, sent up for concurrence and ordered printed.

HARVEY R. PEASE, Clerk

Presented by Mr. Carville of Eustis.

STATE OF MAINE

IN THE YEAR OF OUR LORD NINETEEN HUNDRED
FORTY-SEVEN

RESOLVE, to Reimburse the Town of Kingfield for Support of Charlene Burgess.

Town of Kingfield; reimbursed. Resolved: That the sum of \$621.62 be, and hereby is, appropriated to be paid to the town of Kingfield, to reimburse said town for support of Charlene Burgess; said sum to be paid from the general fund of the state.

STATEMENT OF FACTS

Charlene Burgess was boarded or kept from the time she was a small baby until after she had gone to school for a year or so by Evan Hinkley and his wife at Kingfield. The child's mother, Doris Burgess, apparently paid nothing for board and little if anything for other expenses of the child. There were several children in the Hinkley family, and when Mrs. Hinkley became sick, the town had to make arrangements for the care of the child. The mother, Doris Burgess, was located and agreed to pay, and did pay board on the child until the 25th of August, 1944, at which time the town had to assume the responsibility of the child; and from then until the last of October of this year the town has paid the expenses on the child, besides hospital expenses for the child from March 6 to March 24th in 1944.

The mother or father has never had a residence in our town to our knowledge, and we have a written statement signed by the mother which indicates that for a period exceeding 5 years previous to the time the child fell in distress, that she worked from place to place and had no residence. We have no information as to what her settlement was at the time of the divorce between her and her husband, when the custody of the child was given to her. The divorce took place soon after the child was born, and presumably was the reason that the child was left with the Hinkleys. We have gone to a great deal of trouble and expense trying to locate the mother or the father, in order to obtain an affidavit which would enable the Division of Poor Relief to accept the child as an unsettled case. We have furnished them all the information necessary, except the settlement of the mother at the time of her divorce, and as we are unable to furnish this, we are asking for reimbursement through the Legislature, feeling that the failure to comply with a technicality of the law should not doom us to support a child which was simply dropped in our midst by a stranger.