

MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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

Legislative Document

No. 346

S. P. 232

In Senate, February 3, 1949

Referred to the Committee on Appropriations and Financial Affairs, sent down for concurrence and ordered printed.

CHESTER T. WINSLOW, Secretary

Presented by Senator Leavitt of Cumberland.

STATE OF MAINE

IN THE YEAR OF OUR LORD NINETEEN HUNDRED
FORTY-NINE

**RESOLVE, Providing for Furnishing and Operating Two New
Dormitories at Pownal State School.**

Emergency preamble. Whereas, the facilities at the Pownal State School have been increased by the construction of 2 additional dormitories for patients, and

Whereas, it is most desirable that these buildings be furnished and opened for occupancy at the earliest possible time to reduce a present waiting list of approximately 570, and

Whereas, in the judgment of the legislature these facts create an emergency within the meaning of the constitution of Maine and require the following legislation as immediately necessary for the preservation of the public peace, health and safety; now, therefore, be it

Furnishing and operating 2 new dormitories at the Pownal State School. Resolved: That the sum of \$80,500 be, and hereby is, appropriated from the unappropriated surplus of the general fund of the state to the appropriation of the Pownal State School to cover costs of furnishing, completing and operating 2 new dormitories for patients; said funds not being provided in the appropriation of the institution for 1948-49.

Emergency clause. In view of the emergency cited in the preamble this resolve shall take effect when approved.

STATEMENT OF FACTS

No appropriation to cover costs of furnishing and operating the new dormitories were made for 1948-49 because when the appropriation bill was passed by the legislature the buildings had not been started and when they would open was uncertain.

With the completion of the first of the 2 buildings the advice of the governor and council was requested by the department of institutional service with respect to whether an attempt should be made to operate it in view of the very great need for its use as indicated by the demands for admission to Pownal State School and the long waiting list of applicants, many of them charges of the health and welfare department.

The governor and council, although cognizant that funds were not appropriated for the purpose, authorized the department to open the building as soon as it was ready for occupancy. The governor and council were fully advised as to the financial problem created.

In passing the council order so authorizing the department, the governor and council indicated that it felt the legislature would recognize this problem as an emergency. Accordingly, the department proceeded to ready the buildings for occupancy and the first building is scheduled for occupancy February 1, 1949.

To carry out the instructions of the governor and council, however, an emergency appropriation in the above amount will be necessary.

The department is carrying out the instructions of the governor and council and plans opening of the first of the buildings on February 1. To carry out these instructions, however, the institution has incurred expenses, and will incur expenses beyond the planned operations of the institution provided by the appropriation for 1947-48. Accordingly, the above emergency appropriation is respectfully requested.