

MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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

Legislative Document

No. 1332

H. P. 1134

House of Representatives, March 16, 1955

Referred to the Committee on Public Health, sent up for concurrence and ordered printed.

HARVEY R. PEASE, Clerk

Presented by Mr. Bibber of Kennebunkport.

STATE OF MAINE

IN THE YEAR OF OUR LORD NINETEEN HUNDRED
FIFTY-FIVE

AN ACT Transferring State Sanatoriums from Department of Institutional Service to Department of Health and Welfare.

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

Sec. 1. R. S., c. 25, §§ 105-A - 105-B, additional. Chapter 25 of the revised statutes is hereby amended by adding two new sections to be numbered 105-A and 105-B to read as follows:

State Sanatoriums.

Sec. 105-A. Establishment and maintenance of one or more sanatoriums. The State shall maintain by building, lease or by purchase one or more sanatoriums in such districts of the State as shall seem best to serve the needs of the people for the care and treatment of persons affected with tuberculosis. Where lease or purchase is made, the State shall have the right to enlarge or otherwise adapt the property to meet the needs of the situation; and such additions or improvements shall be considered permanent. At the expiration of the original lease of any property for use as a tuberculosis sanatorium, the State shall have the right of renewal or of purchase.

Sec. 105-B. Admittance of patients; charges for treatment. Residents of the State may be admitted to these sanatoriums, if found by any regular practising physician in the State or by the superintendent of any one of the sanatoriums to be suffering from tuberculosis. All patients in said sanatoriums, or relatives liable by law for their support, shall pay to the State for treatment, including board, supplies and incidentals, the amount determined by the department; pro-

vided that the department may, after proper investigation of the financial circumstances of the patient, or relatives liable by law for his or her support, if it finds that such patient or relatives are unable to pay the amount determined as above, in whole or in part, waive such payment or so much thereof as the circumstances appear to warrant; provided further, that if such patient or relatives are unable to pay, the city, town or plantation in which the patient has a settlement, if any, shall pay to the institution the sum of \$2 per week so long as he patient remains therein.

All funds collected from this source shall be credited to the general fund. No pauper disabilities shall be created by reason of any aid or assistance given under the provisions of this section.

The provisions of this section shall not apply to persons who may be committed under the provisions of section 105 of chapter 25.

Sec. 2. R. S., c. 27, §§ 157-158, repealed. Sections 157 and 158 of chapter 27 of the revised statutes are hereby repealed.

Sec. 3. Transfer of duties. The duties imposed upon the Department of Institutional Service under the provisions of sections 157 and 158 of chapter 27 of the revised statutes are hereby transferred and imposed upon the Department of Health and Welfare.