

MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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Legislative Document

No. 34

S. P. 36

In Senate, January 15, 1959.

The President laid before the Senate and was referred to the Committee on Judiciary, sent down for concurrence and ordered printed.

CHESTER T. WINSLOW, Secretary

STATE OF MAINE

IN THE YEAR OF OUR LORD NINETEEN HUNDRED
FIFTY-NINE

AN ACT Relating to Age of Admission to State Hospitals.

Emergency preamble. Whereas, the youngest age at which persons may be admitted to a State Hospital is 12 years; and

Whereas, there are in the State persons under this age who are mentally ill and in great need of treatment in a State Hospital; and

Whereas, such persons cannot now be accepted for treatment in a State Hospital; and

Whereas, such persons are dangerous to the public safety; 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 enacted by the People of the State of Maine, as follows:

Sec. 1. R. S., c. 27, § 103, amended. Section 103 of chapter 27 of the Revised Statutes is hereby amended to read as follows:

'Sec. 103. Duties of parents and guardians of insane minors. Parents and guardians of insane minors, over ~~12~~ 8 years of age, if of sufficient ability to support them there, shall, within 30 days after an attack of insanity, without legal examination, send them to either the Augusta or the Bangor State Hospital and give to the Department the bond required; or they may send them to some other hospital for the insane, within said period.'

Sec. 2. R. S., c. 27, § 104, amended, The first sentence of section 104 of chapter 27 of the Revised Statutes is hereby amended to read as follows:

'Insane persons, over ~~12~~ 8 years of age, not thus sent to any hospital, may be admitted to state institutions for the insane but shall be subject to examination as hereinafter provided.'

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