

# MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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LAWS  
OF THE  
STATE OF MAINE

AS PASSED BY THE

ONE HUNDRED AND EIGHTH LEGISLATURE

FIRST REGULAR SESSION

January 5, 1977 to July 25, 1977

PUBLISHED BY THE DIRECTOR OF LEGISLATIVE RESEARCH IN  
ACCORDANCE WITH MAINE REVISED STATUTES ANNOTATED,  
TITLE 3, SECTION 164, SUBSECTION 6.

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PORTLAND LITHOGRAPH COMPANY  
PORTLAND, MAINE  
1977

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PUBLIC LAWS  
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**STATE OF MAINE**  
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## CHAPTER 574

### AN ACT to Expand the Availability of Certain Social Services by Increasing Income Eligibility.

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

22 MRSA § 9, as enacted by PL 1965, c. 470, is repealed and the following enacted in its place:

#### § 9. Fees for services

1. Reasonable fees authorized. The Department of Human Services is authorized to charge reasonable fees for any services provided under this Title if, in the opinion of the commissioner, the recipient of such services has sufficient resources to pay for these services. Any fees thus received shall constitute a permanent fund for use by the department as special revenue income and shall be used to defray the expenses of the services charged for and shall not become part of the General Fund.

2. Title XX services; sliding fee scale. The department is authorized to provide and to establish a sliding fee scale for the provision of mental health, mental retardation, family planning, alcohol treatment, campership, foster care, group care and homemaker services under Title XX of the Federal Social Security Act, as amended, to individuals and families whose adjusted gross income is below 115% of the median personal income for residents of the State. Any such fee scale established by the department shall be subject to the following provisions.

A. Any fees which are paid pursuant to this subsection shall be paid to the agency which directly provides the service; and, notwithstanding any provision in subsection 1, these fees shall be used by the agency to defray the expenses of services charged for and shall proportionately reduce reimbursements to the agency by the department for those services. Funds generated by the department as a result of the establishment of a sliding fee scale shall be used for additional social services of the type for which the fees have been paid.

B. Services provided to recipients whose income is between 80% and 115% of the personal median income for residents of the State, shall not exceed 20% of the service units provided in each category of service.

C. Any sliding fee scale for the payment for services specified in this subsection, shall be based on the ability of recipients of these services to pay.

D. In establishing any sliding fee scale for the payment for services specified in this subsection, the department shall take into account at least gross family income, family size and indebtedness.

E. Prior to the implementation of any fee scale for services specified in this subsection, the department shall consult with the Joint Standing Committee on Health and Institutional Services of the Legislature and shall hold

public hearings, duly advertised in the media, prior to the adoption of the fee scale.

F. The median income figure used by the department as a basis of determining eligibility shall be reviewed at least annually and shall be adjusted to reflect the official median income figure for Maine, as promulgated by the United States Department of Health, Education and Welfare.

3. Child day care services. The department shall provide and shall establish a sliding fee scale for the provision of child day care services under Title XX of the Federal Social Security Act, as amended, both to individuals and families whose adjusted gross income is at or below 80% of the median personal income for residents of the State and to individuals and families whose adjusted gross income is between 80% and 115% of the median personal income for residents of the State. This sliding fee scale shall be subject to the following provisions.

A. The provisions included in subsection 2, paragraphs A, B and F shall apply to the fee scale established by the department for child day care services.

B. The following sliding fee scale for the provision of child day care services, as adjusted annually pursuant to subsection 2, paragraph F, shall be adopted by the department on January 1, 1978.

**FEE SCALE**

**Number in Family**

	2	3	4	5	6	7	Fee
<b>60% Median</b>							
<b>WEEKLY INCOME</b>	\$101-106	125-131	149-158	173-183	197-209	201-213	\$ 0
	\$107-112	132-140	159-168	184-194	210-222	214-226	\$ 2
	\$113-119	141-149	169-178	195-205	223-235	227-240	\$ 4
	\$120-127	150-158	179-188	206-217	236-248	241-254	\$ 6
<b>80% Median</b>							
	\$128-135	159-167	189-199	218-230	249-262	255-268	\$ 8
	\$136-142	168-177	200-211	231-244	263-278	269-284	\$10
	\$143-149	178-187	212-223	245-258	279-295	285-300	\$13
	\$150-157	188-198	224-236	259-273	296-312	301-317	\$16
<b>100% Median</b>							
	\$158-169	199-209	237-249	274-289	313-329	318-336	\$19
	\$170-178	210-219	250-260	290-303	330-344	337-352	\$23
	\$179-187	220-229	261-273	304-317	345-361	353-369	\$27
<b>115% Median</b>							
	\$188-195	230-240	274-286	318-332	362-378	370-386	\$32

Based on Guidelines October 1, 1977

Effective October 24, 1977