



# 131st MAINE LEGISLATURE

## FIRST SPECIAL SESSION-2023

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Legislative Document

No. 2002

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H.P. 1280

House of Representatives, May 25, 2023

**An Act to Provide Incentives to Schools That Contract for Certain  
Social Work and Family Therapy Services**

(AFTER DEADLINE)

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Approved for introduction by a majority of the Legislative Council pursuant to Joint Rule 205.

Reference to the Committee on Education and Cultural Affairs suggested and ordered printed.

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Robert B. Hunt".

ROBERT B. HUNT  
Clerk

Presented by Speaker TALBOT ROSS of Portland.  
Cosponsored by Representatives: COPELAND of Saco, MALON of Biddeford, Senators:  
DAUGHTRY of Cumberland, RAFFERTY of York.

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

2 **Sec. 1. 20-A MRSA c. 223, sub-c. 12** is enacted to read:

3 **SUBCHAPTER 12**

4 **BEHAVIORAL HEALTH**

5 **§6701. Contracted social work and family therapy services**

6 **1. Contract authorized.** A school administrative unit may contract with an  
7 appropriate entity to provide social work and family therapy services for students within  
8 the school administrative unit. Services provided as authorized by this section must be  
9 provided by an individual with one of the following licenses:

- 10 A. Licensed master social worker;  
11 B. Licensed master social worker, clinical conditional;  
12 C. Licensed clinical social worker;  
13 D. Licensed clinical social worker, clinical conditional;  
14 E. Licensed marriage and family therapist; or  
15 F. Licensed marriage and family therapist, clinical conditional.

16 **Sec. 2. Grant program required.** The Department of Education shall administer  
17 a grant program to provide money to school administrative units that contract for social  
18 work and family therapy services as authorized by the Maine Revised Statutes, Title 20-A,  
19 section 6701 according to the population of the school administrative unit as follows:

- 20 1. Two hundred fifty or fewer students, \$3,000;  
21 2. Two hundred fifty-one to 500 students, \$6,000; and  
22 3. More than 500 students, \$9,000.

23 Money received under the grant program may be used only to pay the cost of the  
24 contract to provide social work and family therapy services.

25 **Sec. 3. Appropriations and allocations.** The following appropriations and  
26 allocations are made.

27 **EDUCATION, DEPARTMENT OF**

28 **School and Student Supports Z270**

29 Initiative: Provides ongoing funds for grants to school administrative units for contracted  
30 social work and family therapy services for students. The grants are based on the  
31 population of each school administrative unit.

32 <b>GENERAL FUND</b>	<b>2023-24</b>	<b>2024-25</b>
33 All Other	\$1,353,000	\$1,353,000
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35 GENERAL FUND TOTAL	<u>\$1,353,000</u>	<u>\$1,353,000</u>

**SUMMARY**

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This bill authorizes a school administrative unit to contract for social work and family therapy services for students within the school administrative unit and directs the Department of Education to administer a grant program to provide money to those school administrative units according to the school administrative unit's population.