

Bill Would Promote Adoption of Handicapped

Albany—Assemblyman Charles Jerabek's legislation to encourage adoption of handicapped children has passed the Assembly and is now on its way to the governor.

The Jerabek bill passed unanimously in the Assembly and was favorably acted upon in the Senate earlier.

The bill encourages the adoption of children with medi-

cal and mental handicaps by permitting a state subsidy to the adoptive parents for all medical, surgical, psychiatric and other special costs for a handicapped child.

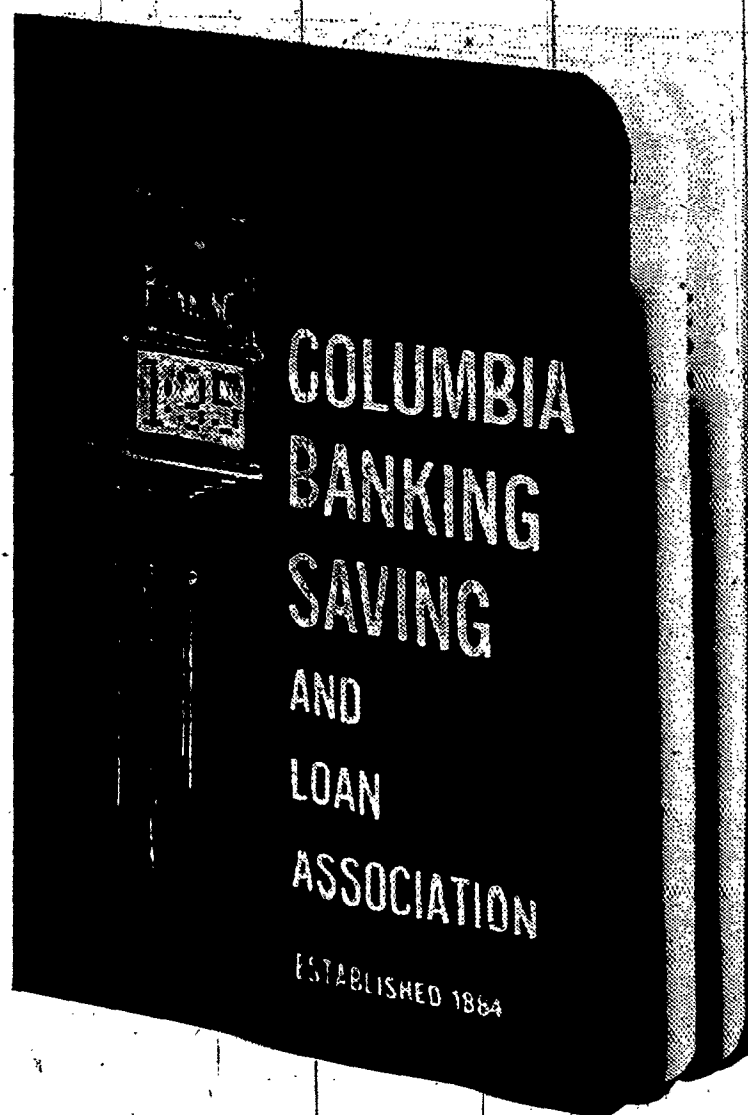
"At this very moment there are thousands of children in boarding homes across the state, being denied adoption because prospective adoptive parents cannot shoulder the high costs for treatment and rehabilitation of these children," said Jerabek.

"The costs are now underwritten by the state and this legislation has the happy implication of actually saving the state money, in addition to its very humane and most important factor of promoting adoption of the less fortunate."

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