

# MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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FIRST SPECIAL SESSION

ONE HUNDRED AND SIXTH LEGISLATURE

Legislative Document

No. 2246

H. P. 1774

House of Representatives, January 2, 1974

Referred to the Committee on Appropriations and Financial Affairs. Sent up for concurrence and ordered printed.

E. LOUISE LINCOLN, Clerk

Presented by Mr. Jalbert of Lewiston.

STATE OF MAINE

IN THE YEAR OF OUR LORD NINETEEN HUNDRED  
SEVENTY-FOUR

AN ACT Relating to a State-wide Food Stamp Program.

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

Sec. 1. R. S., T. 22, § 3104, repealed and replaced. Section 3104 of Title 22 of the Revised Statutes, as repealed and replaced by section 1 of chapter 463 of the public laws of 1971 and as amended, is repealed and the following enacted in place thereof:

§ 3104. State-wide food stamp program

The department is authorized to administer a state-wide food stamp program in conformity with regulations promulgated by the United States Department of Health, Education and Welfare. The department is also authorized, in its discretion, to cooperate with and participate in the administration of food distribution programs in conformity with regulations promulgated by the United States Department of Agriculture.

The department is also authorized to pay the costs of issuance of food stamps by banks, municipalities or other sources.

Sec. 2. Appropriation. There is appropriated from the General Fund to the Department of Health and Welfare the sum of \$825,559 to cover administration costs of certifying eligibility under section 1 of this Act. The breakdown shall be as follows:

1974-75

HEALTH AND WELFARE,  
DEPARTMENT OF

Administration of state-wide food stamp program		
Personal Services	(180)	\$713,559
All Other		80,000
Capital Expenditures		32,000
		<hr/>
		\$825,559

### STATEMENT OF FACT

Federal legislation terminates the food distribution program as of July 1, 1974. By similar legislation it is required that a state-wide food stamp program be initiated as of that date under the administration of the Department of Health and Welfare.

These figures are calculated at salaries that will be in effect July 1, 1974 and represent current matching from HEW and USDA which averages 50%.

A state-wide food stamp program will have 15% of the population potentially eligible. This is 150,000 people affected in over 490 municipalities.

The program on a state-wide basis represents over \$40,000,000 in food purchasing power of which over \$20,000,000 is in bonus value of the food coupons. Total administrative costs for this program represent between 3% and 4% of the total program.