## MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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|  | FIRST RI  | EGULAR SES   | SION   | 1/29/85  |
|--|---|--|--|--|
| ONE  | HUNDRED ANI   | O TWELFTH  | LEGISLATURE  |  |
| Legislative Docu                                     | ment  |  |  | No. 26   |
| S.P. 85  |   |  | In Senate, Jar                                     | nuary 29, 198  |
| Reference to   | the Committee o   | on Taxation su   | ggested and orde                                   | ered printed.  |
|  |   | JOY J. O'B   | RIEN, Secretary                                    | of the Senat   |
| Presented by Sena<br>Cosponsored<br>of Penobscot and | by Representativ  | e P. Paradis   | of Augusta, Sena<br>Wilton.                        | ator Maybury   |
|  | STATI   | E OF MAINE   |  |  |
| NII  | IN THE YINETEEN HUNDI   | EAR OF OUR<br>RED AND EI   |  |  |
| Elig:<br>Ho:<br>El:                                  | ibility Guiduseholders Tact and to  | delines in<br>Fax and Re<br>Increase<br>Conform                  | Income   | У  |
| Be it enacted follows:                               | d by the Peo  | ople of th   | e State of   | Maine as   |
| <b>36 MRSA</b><br>§189, is fur                       |   |  | by PL 1981   | , c. 698,  |
| §6108. Incor   | ne limitatio  | on   |  |  |
| claimants of income in exc                           | f single mer<br>cess of \$576<br>25 in each<br>quested; and<br>ed to claims | mber house<br>500 in eat<br>succeedin<br>i no claim<br>ants of h | endar year<br>g the year<br>otherwise<br>ouseholds | household<br>1980 and<br>for which<br>allowable<br>of 2 or |

1 endar year 1980 and \$7,400 \$8,400 in each succeeding the year for which relief is requested.

## STATEMENT OF FACT

The purpose of this bill is to modify the inequitable income eligibility guidelines on the Elderly Householders Tax and Rent Refund Act and to make the income guidelines for this Act the same as the guidelines for the Home Energy Assistance Program, which are 125% of federally established poverty levels. This change will increase the individual income eligibility by \$25 and will increase eligibility for multimember households by \$1,000. This change was supported by the 1984 Blaine House Conference on Aging. In fiscal year 1983, the Elderly Householders Tax and Rent Refund Act returned \$1,000,000 of unspent funds due to a declining number of eligible applicants.

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