

MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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128th MAINE LEGISLATURE

FIRST REGULAR SESSION-2017

Legislative Document

No. 1413

S.P. 491

In Senate, April 11, 2017

Resolve, Regarding Sober Living Transitional Assistance

Reference to the Committee on Health and Human Services suggested and ordered printed.

A handwritten signature in cursive script, reading "Heather J.R. Priest".

HEATHER J.R. PRIEST
Secretary of the Senate

Presented by Senator CHIPMAN of Cumberland.
Cosponsored by Representative HAMANN of South Portland and
Senator: BRAKEY of Androscoggin, Representatives: DENNO of Cumberland, HEAD of
Bethel, HYMANSON of York, MADIGAN of Waterville, MALABY of Hancock, PARKER
of South Berwick, PERRY of Calais.

1 **Sec. 1. Help Me Recover Fund established. Resolved:** That the Help Me
 2 Recover Fund, referred to in this section as "the fund," is established within the
 3 Department of Health and Human Services to provide grants to persons to use as a
 4 deposit and first month rent payment for housing in a recovery residence. The fund
 5 consists of any money received as contributions, grants or appropriations from private
 6 and public sources. To be eligible for a grant from the fund a person must be ready for
 7 discharge from a detoxification or residential treatment program and be financially unable
 8 to provide a deposit and first month rent payment for housing in a recovery residence.
 9 The Department of Health and Human Services shall enter into a contract with a
 10 nonprofit organization with experience in substance use disorder treatment or recovery to
 11 administer and make distributions from the fund. The contract must allow the nonprofit
 12 organization to retain a maximum of \$4,000 for administrative services and must require
 13 the nonprofit organization to establish an applicant review process that, at a minimum:

- 14 1. Includes the use of a review committee of which at least 60% of committee
 15 members are peer reviewers. For purposes of this subsection, "peer reviewer" includes,
 16 but is not limited to, former residents of a recovery residence;
- 17 2. Determines the readiness of an applicant to join a recovery residence; and
- 18 3. Ensures that the recovery residence at which an applicant will be housed is
 19 certified by a nonprofit organization that oversees standards for recovery residences in the
 20 State or that the recovery residence's certification is pending; and be it further

21 **Sec. 2. Appropriations and allocations. Resolved:** That the following
 22 appropriations and allocations are made.

23 **HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES, DEPARTMENT OF (FORMERLY DHS)**
 24 **Help Me Recover Fund N237**
 25 Initiative: Provides one-time funding to the Help Me Recover Fund to provide grants to
 26 persons being discharged from detoxification or residential treatment programs to use as a
 27 deposit and first month rent payment for housing in a recovery residence.

28	GENERAL FUND	2017-18	2018-19
29	All Other	\$50,000	\$0
30		<u> </u>	<u> </u>
31	GENERAL FUND TOTAL	\$50,000	\$0

32 **SUMMARY**

33 This resolve establishes the Help Me Recover Fund within the Department of Health
 34 and Human Services to provide grants to persons being discharged from detoxification or
 35 residential treatment programs to use as a deposit and first month rent payment for
 36 housing in a recovery residence. To be eligible for a grant from the fund a person must
 37 be financially unable to provide a deposit and first month rent payment. The resolve

1 directs the department to enter into a contract with a nonprofit organization with
2 experience in substance use disorder treatment or recovery to administer and make
3 distributions from the fund.