

MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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132nd MAINE LEGISLATURE

FIRST REGULAR SESSION-2025

Legislative Document

No. 1017

S.P. 434

In Senate, March 13, 2025

**An Act to Include Food Provided or Served at Emergency Shelters
in General Assistance Reimbursement**

Received by the Secretary of the Senate on March 12, 2025. Referred to the Committee on Health and Human Services pursuant to Joint Rule 308.2 and ordered printed.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'D M Grant'.

DAREK M. GRANT
Secretary of the Senate

Presented by Senator TALBOT ROSS of Cumberland.
Cosponsored by Representative MEYER of Eliot and
Senators: HICKMAN of Kennebec, INGWERSEN of York, ROTUNDO of Androscoggin,
Representatives: CLOUTIER of Lewiston, DEBRITO of Waterville, GATTINE of Westbrook,
PLUECKER of Warren, ZAGER of Portland.

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

2 **Sec. 1. 22 MRSA §4311, sub-§1**, as amended by PL 2015, c. 267, Pt. SSSS, §1, is
3 further amended by amending the first blocked paragraph to read:

4 The department shall reimburse each municipality and each Indian tribe 70% of the direct
5 costs incurred by that municipality or tribe on or after July 1, 2015 for the general assistance
6 program granted by that municipality or tribe. Beginning January 1, 2026, direct costs
7 under this subsection include the cost of food provided or served at an emergency shelter.
8 For the purposes of this subsection, "Indian tribe" has the same meaning as in section 411,
9 subsection 8-A.

10 **SUMMARY**

11 This bill includes the cost of food provided or served at emergency shelters in the
12 Department of Health and Human Services' reimbursement of general assistance costs to
13 municipalities.