

# MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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# 132nd MAINE LEGISLATURE

## FIRST SPECIAL SESSION-2025

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Legislative Document

No. 1707

H.P. 1142

House of Representatives, April 17, 2025

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**An Act to Require a Person to Be a United States Citizen to Receive  
State or Local Financial Assistance and to Ensure Municipal  
Compliance with Federal Immigration Laws**

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

A handwritten signature in cursive script, reading "R B. Hunt".

ROBERT B. HUNT  
Clerk

Presented by Representative GREENWOOD of Wales.  
Cosponsored by Senator STEWART of Aroostook and  
Representatives: DRINKWATER of Milford, DUCHARME of Madison, FAULKINGHAM of  
Winter Harbor, JAVNER of Chester, RUDNICKI of Fairfield, SMITH of Palermo,  
SOBOLESKI of Phillips, THORNE of Carmel.

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

**Sec. 1. 5 MRSA §60** is enacted to read:

**§60. State financial assistance; United States citizenship required**

Notwithstanding any provision of law to the contrary, the State may not provide any form of financial assistance to an individual who is not a citizen of the United States. This section does not apply to the provision of general purpose aid for local schools distributed in accordance with Title 20-A, chapter 606-B.

**Sec. 2. 22 MRSA §4301, sub-§3**, as amended by PL 2015, c. 324, §1, is further amended to read:

**3. Eligible person.** "Eligible person" means a person citizen of the United States who is qualified to receive general assistance from a municipality according to standards of eligibility determined by the municipal officers whether or not that person has applied for general assistance. "Eligible person" does not include a person who is a fugitive from justice as defined in Title 15, section 201, subsection 4. ~~Beginning July 1, 2015, in accordance with 8 United States Code, Section 1621(d), "eligible person" means a person who is lawfully present in the United States or who is pursuing a lawful process to apply for immigration relief, except that assistance for such a person may not exceed 24 months.~~

**Sec. 3. 30-A MRSA §2007** is enacted to read:

**§2007. Ineligibility for state funds based on immigration policies**

Notwithstanding any provision of law to the contrary, a municipality that has in effect any ordinance, policy or procedure, formal or informal, in contravention of the federal Illegal Immigration Reform and Immigrant Responsibility Act of 1996, Section 642, subsection (a) or (b) or that prohibits, formally or informally, a local law enforcement officer from gathering information regarding the lawful or unlawful citizenship or immigration status of any individual is ineligible for any form of financial assistance from the State, including, but not limited to, state-municipal revenue sharing pursuant to section 5681 and funding for municipal general assistance pursuant to Title 22, chapter 1161.

**Sec. 4. 30-A MRSA §2008** is enacted to read:

**§2008. Municipal assistance; United States citizenship required**

Notwithstanding any provision of law to the contrary, a municipality may not provide any form of financial assistance to an individual who is not a citizen of the United States. This section does not apply to the provision of general purpose aid for local schools distributed in accordance with Title 20-A, chapter 606-B.

## SUMMARY

This bill requires an individual to be a citizen of the United States in order to receive any form of financial assistance from the State or a municipality, except for funding for general purpose aid for education. The bill also provides that a municipality is ineligible to receive municipal general assistance and state-municipal revenue sharing if that municipality prohibits or restricts, formally or informally, the exchange of information with federal immigration authorities or any other federal, state or local government entity

1 regarding the citizenship or immigration status, lawful or unlawful, of any individual or the  
2 maintenance of such information.