

MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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ONE HUNDRED AND THIRD LEGISLATURE

Legislative Document

No. 1002

H. P. 707

House of Representatives, February 22, 1967

Referred to Committee on Health and Institutional Services. Sent up for concurrence and ordered printed.

BERTHA W. JOHNSON, Clerk

Presented by Mr. Levesque of Madawaska.

STATE OF MAINE

IN THE YEAR OF OUR LORD NINETEEN HUNDRED
SIXTY-SEVEN

AN ACT Relating to the Administration of the Aid to Dependent Children Program, and Authorizing Work Experience and Training for Recipients of Aid to Dependent Children.

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

Sec. 1. R. S., T. 22, § 374I, repealed and replaced. Section 374I of Title 22 of the Revised Statutes, as amended by chapter 291 of the public laws of 1965, is repealed and the following enacted in place thereof:

§ 374I. Aid to dependent children

The department is authorized to administer and operate a program of aid to dependent children within the Federal Social Security Act and any amendments and additions thereto.

Sec. 2. R. S., T. 22, §§ 3742 to 3749, repealed. Sections 3742 to 3749 of Title 22 of the Revised Statutes, as amended by section 2 of chapter 262 of the public laws of 1965, are repealed.

Sec. 3. R. S., T. 22, § 375I, amended. Section 375I of Title 22 of the Revised Statutes is amended to read as follows:

§ 375I. Federal grants

The Treasurer of State shall be the appropriate fiscal officer of the State to receive federal grants on account of aid to dependent children and administration thereof, as contemplated by ~~Title IV~~ of the Federal Social Security Act, and the State Controller shall authorize expenditures therefrom as approved by the department.

Sec. 4. Appropriation. There is appropriated from the General Fund to the Department of Health and Welfare the sum of \$51,250 for the fiscal year ending June 30, 1968 and the sum of \$98,750 for the fiscal year ending June 30, 1969 to carry out the purposes of this Act. The breakdown shall be as follows:

	1967-68	1968-69
HEALTH AND WELFARE, DEPARTMENT OF		
Personal Services	(6) \$13,500	(9) \$20,500
All Other	37,000	78,000
Capital Expenditures	750	250
	<hr/> \$51,250	<hr/> \$98,750

STATEMENT OF FACTS

This Act would eliminate the necessity of requesting and approving minor statutory changes in the laws pertaining to Aid to Dependent Children resulting from changes in federal legislation. Since Congressional appropriations are made after the close of the Maine legislative session, this Act would also permit the State to take advantage of available federal funds and programs without undue delay. Legislative control would be retained by virtue of the appropriations mechanism.

This Act would also authorize the Department of Health and Welfare to establish a program of work experience and training for recipients of Aid to Dependent Children. For the past 18 months, under a demonstration grant, present and potential welfare recipients have received job training and related services needed to become employed and self-supporting.

For such a program to continue, on a permanent and state-wide basis, Aid to Dependent Children must be re-defined to permit assistance and training to heads of families in need as a result of unemployment. This would also have the effect of removing the premium on divorce and desertion in the present ADC program. Federal law requires that no person would be eligible who rejects a bona fide offer of employment or training.

The \$150,000 state appropriation would generate \$450,000 in federal funds. That aside from the difference in the size of the contemplated programs, as indicated by the difference in the requested appropriation, this Act provides greater flexibility in the utilization of federal funds than is provided for in a similar bill entitled, "An Act Authorizing Work Experience and Training for Recipients of Aid to Dependent Children by Re-defining Dependent Child," by the use of broader language.