

MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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state services more efficiently and economically. To aid in accomplishing this purpose and due to improved travel conditions and communications, housing at state institutions and other areas of State Government for state employees, as specified in section 8-B, and commissaries operated by state departments for the sale of food and food supplies to state employees, as specified in section 8-C, shall be eliminated.

§ 8-B. Housing

It is the intent of the Legislature to discourage the construction, reconstruction and equipping of new housing facilities for state employees at state institutions and all other areas of State Government. The housing facilities of each state department shall be reviewed by the state department involved, and if such facilities are not necessary for the operation of the department or any branch thereof, use of such facilities for housing shall be eliminated. If, after such review, it is determined that such facilities are essential, a rental charge shall be made to cover the total operating cost of any such facility. These costs shall include, but not be limited to, rates charged to the State, in operating such facility, for water, electricity, heat, telephone and furnishings and any other maintenance costs. Such costs shall not include charges for telephones used primarily for state business. In determining the feasibility of any such facility, the department shall consider the availability of living facilities for its employees, particularly in the unorganized territory and rural areas of the State. Any facility used on a seasonal basis shall be partially exempt from rental charges, at the discretion of the department.

§ 8-C. Food and food supplies

All commissary-type facilities operated by state departments for the sale of food and food supplies to any person shall be eliminated. Purchasing of food and food supplies for any person by requisition or otherwise, is prohibited, except that the Departments of Inland Fisheries and Game and Forestry may requisition food supplies for emergency use or special duty assignments. Meals purchased and prepared for institutional or school use may be sold to an employee based on the actual total cost of purchasing, preparing and serving such food or food supplies.

§ 8-D. Income

Any income derived from the operation of housing or food facilities, or both, under sections 8-B and 8-C, shall accrue to whatever fund pays for such facilities; if it is a General Fund account, the income shall accrue to General Fund undedicated revenue; if it is a special revenue account, the income shall accrue to that account.

§ 8-E. Rules and regulations; review

Each department shall establish and promulgate, with the Bureau of the Budget, rules and regulations to carry out the purposes of sections 8-B to 8-C. Such rules and regulations shall be transmitted to the Legislative Research Committee for its review and approval within 60 days after passage of this Act and thereafter biennially.

§ 8-F. **Penalty**

Any state officer or employee who violates sections 8-A to 8-E shall be punished by a fine of not more than \$1,000 and shall be dismissed from state service.

Emergency clause. In view of the emergency cited in the preamble, this Act shall take effect when approved.

STATEMENT OF FACT

The purpose of this bill is reflected in the emergency preamble.