

MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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(EMERGENCY)

ONE HUNDRED AND SIXTH LEGISLATURE

Legislative Document

No. 991

S. P. 356

In Senate, February 22, 1973

Reported by Senator Sewall of Penobscot, from Committee on Appropriations and Financial Affairs pursuant to Joint Order (S. P. 302) and ordered printed under Joint Rules No. 18.

HARRY N. STARBRANCH, Secretary

STATE OF MAINE

IN THE YEAR OF OUR LORD NINETEEN HUNDRED
SEVENTY-THREE

AN ACT Making Additional Appropriations from the General Fund for the Expenditures of State Government and for Other Purposes for the Fiscal Year Ending June 30, 1973.

Emergency preamble. Whereas, Acts of the Legislature do not become effective until 90 days after adjournment unless enacted as emergencies; and

Whereas, the said 90-day period will not terminate until after the beginning of the next fiscal year; and

Whereas, certain obligations and expenses necessary to the operation of departments and institutions will become due and payable before July 1, 1973; and

Whereas, in the judgment of the Legislature, these facts create an emergency within the meaning of the Constitution of Maine and require the following legislation as immediately necessary for the preservation of the public peace, health and safety; now, therefore,

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

Appropriations for necessary expenditures of government. In order to provide for the necessary expenditures of government and for other purposes for the current fiscal year — from July 1, 1972 to June 30, 1973 — the following sums or as much thereof as shall severally be found necessary, as designated in the following tabulation, are appropriated out of any moneys in the General Fund not otherwise appropriated or provided by law. Upon receipt of allotments duly approved by the Governor and Council based upon work programs submitted to the State Budget Officer, the State Controller shall authorize expenditures of these appropriations and revenues accruing thereto,

together with expenditures for other purposes necessary to the conduct of State Government on the basis of such allotment and not otherwise.

APPROPRIATIONS FROM GENERAL FUND

DEPARTMENT—Account

1972-73

HEALTH AND WELFARE, DEPARTMENT OF

Medical Care

All Other

\$400,000

Provides funds for payment of bills for medical care under Medical Assistance Program. These funds will be matched with \$908,500 in federal funds.

The department lapsed \$408,383 in medical care funds to the General Fund at the close of fiscal year 1972 while carrying unpaid bills in excess of \$1.5 million into the new year. The problem was due to delayed receipt of federal funds for the month of June, 1972, therefore not all medical payments at year's end were able to be processed.

Eye Care and Special Services

All Other

\$ 50,000

To provide funds for the special education program for blind children.

The Legislature made a supplemental appropriation for this program in the Special Session. However, the tuition bill from Perkins Institute and certain other large bills did not arrive in time to be paid during the fiscal year and the funds lapsed to the General Fund. We are asking that these funds be reappropriated so that there will be no funding emergency for this problem this year.

Vocational Rehabilitation

All Other

\$ 16,800

To provide additional funds for vocational rehabilitation programs.

The Department is required to report expenditures for Vocational Rehabilitation to the Federal government on an accrual basis. This is inconsistent with the State accounting system which is on a modified cash basis. As a result, when the Department reported to DHEW at the end of fiscal year 1972 it was necessary to report approximately \$68,000 in funds committed for which there had been no actual cash outlay prior to June 30th. Simultaneously, the State share of this \$68,000 was being lapsed to the General Fund because the cash disbursement had not been made. This request is to replace the State share of this expense so that there will be no loss to the Department in Federal funds for Vocational Rehabilitation.

Total Appropriation

\$466,800

Amounting to \$466,800 for the fiscal year ending June 30, 1973.

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.