

MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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ONE HUNDRED AND SIXTH LEGISLATURE

Legislative Document

No. 1138

H. P. 853 House of Representatives, February 23, 1973
Referred to the Committee on Health and Institutional Services. Sent up
for concurrence and ordered printed.

E. LOUISE LINCOLN, Clerk

Presented by Mr. Hodgdon of Kittery.

STATE OF MAINE

IN THE YEAR OF OUR LORD NINETEEN HUNDRED
SEVENTY-THREE

AN ACT Relating to Reimbursement to Municipalities for Aid to the Aged,
Blind or Disabled.

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

R. S., T. 22, § 3303, amended. Section 3303 of Title 22 of the Revised Statutes is amended by adding a new sentence at the end to read as follows:

The State shall reimburse the municipality for any expense incurred by the municipality for assistance to the recipient after date of application by the recipient, but not before 45 days have elapsed, so long as there is subsequent acceptance by the recipient into a state public assistance program.

STATEMENT OF FACT

The Department of Health and Welfare's Public Assistance Payments Manual states that "(T)he agency's (Department of Health and Welfare) 30 and 45 day time standard for acting upon applications with promptness applies to all categories of assistance...". In a survey conducted last spring by the Maine Municipal Association of processing times of Aid to the Disabled applications with which municipal officials had come in contact, few, if any, applications had been processed within 45 days. The average processing time of an application was 6 months. This is burdensome to both the applicant and the municipality. This legislation shifts the burden of cost to the department for delays the department is responsible for.