

# MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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ONE HUNDRED AND SIXTH LEGISLATURE

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Legislative Document

No. 1343

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H. P. 1020

House of Representatives, March 6, 1973

Referred to the Committee on Appropriations and Financial Affairs. Sent up for concurrence and ordered printed.

E. LOUISE LINCOLN, Clerk

Presented by Mrs. McCormick of Union.

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STATE OF MAINE

IN THE YEAR OF OUR LORD NINETEEN HUNDRED  
SEVENTY-THREE

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**AN ACT** Relating to Housing and Food Supplies Furnished to State  
Employees.

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

**Sec. 1. R. S., T. 5, § 8-B, amended.** Section 8-B of Title 5 of the Revised Statutes, as enacted by chapter 588 of the public laws of 1971, is amended to read as follows:

**§ 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 and to cause the termination of existing provision of housing facilities to state employees whenever other housing facilities are reasonably available to such employees and their residence elsewhere will not substantially impair the effective management and operation of the state department or institution by which such persons are employed. The housing facilities of each state department shall be reviewed periodically 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~~ the provision of any such housing facilities shall be terminated whenever the above stated criteria are met. ~~If, after such review, it is determined that such facilities are essential~~ Except as otherwise provided, in each instance of the provision of housing facilities by the State, 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. **No charge shall be made for the provision of housing facilities when the state employee involved is required as a condition of his employment to reside in such housing facilities.**

**Sec. 2. R. S., T. 5, § 8-C, amended.** Section 8-C of Title 5 of the Revised Statutes, as enacted by chapter 588 of the public laws of 1971, is amended by adding a new paragraph at the end to read as follows:

**No charge shall be made for the provision of meals to any state employee who eats such meals within the scope of his employment and in so doing serves a function of his employment.**

#### STATEMENT OF FACT

The purpose of this Act is to remove inequities that have affected certain employees of state institutions in the administration of the original Act and to provide a means of correcting such inequities.