

# MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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STATE OF MAINE  
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES  
106TH LEGISLATURE  
FIRST SPECIAL SESSION

COMMITTEE AMENDMENT "A" to H. P. 1774,  
L. D. 2246, Bill, "AN ACT Relating to a State-  
wide Food Stamp Program."

Amend said Bill by striking out everything after  
the enacting clause and before the Statement of  
Fact and inserting in place thereof the following:

'Sec. 1. R. S., T. 22, § 3104, repealed and  
replaced. Section 3104 of Title 22 of the  
Revised Statutes, as repealed and replaced by  
section 1 of chapter 463 of the public laws of  
1971 and as amended, is repealed and the following  
enacted in place thereof:

§3104. State-wide food stamp program

The department is authorized to administer a  
state-wide food stamp program in accordance with  
the related requirements and regulations of the  
United States Departments of Agriculture and  
Health, Education and Welfare. The department is  
also authorized to cooperate with and participate  
in the administration of food distribution programs  
in conformity with regulations promulgated by the  
United States Department of Agriculture.

The department is also authorized to pay  
the costs of issuance of food stamps from its  
existing appropriations for general assistance  
or from other available funds.

There shall be established as of July 1,  
1974 a state-wide food stamp program in accordance  
with this section.

The State shall pay 2/3 and each county shall  
pay 1/3 of the administrative costs for the  
operation of the program in said county, exclusive  
of the direct costs of issuance of stamps.

*(Filed by Mr. H. 629)*

The department is authorized to determine the costs of administration for the counties and to enter into any necessary contracts or agreements with the counties for the purposes of this section.

The counties shall pay their share of the costs of their program by making advance quarterly payments to the Department of Health and Welfare.

Sec. 2. Appropriation. There is appropriated from the General Fund to the Department of Health and Welfare the sum of \$550,374 to cover administration costs of certifying eligibility under section 1 of this Act. The breakdown shall be as follows:

1974-75

HEALTH AND WELFARE,  
DEPARTMENT OF

Administration of state-wide  
food stamp program

Personal Services	(180)	\$475,706
All Other		53,334
Capital Expenditures		21,334
		<u>\$550,374</u>

Statement of Fact

Federal legislation terminates the food distribution program as of July 1, 1974. By similar legislation it is required that a state-wide food stamp program be initiated as of that date under the administration of the Department of Health and Welfare.

These figures are calculated at salaries that will be in effect July 1, 1974 and represent current matching from HEW and USDA which averages 50%.

*(Filing No. H-629)*

A state-wide food stamp program will have 15% of the population potentially eligible. This is 150,000 people affected in over 490 municipalities

The program on a state-wide basis represents over \$40,000,000 in food purchasing power of which over \$20,000,000 is in bonus value of the food coupons. Total administrative costs for this program represent between 3% and 4% of the total program.

Note: Above estimates of funds are 2/3 of the total administrative costs of the program exclusive of the direct costs of stamp issuance. Counties will furnish \$1 for every \$2 of State funds to meet total program costs.

Reported by the Committee on Appropriations and Financial Affairs.

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1/11/74

(Filing No. H-629)