

# MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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STATE OF MAINE  
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES  
107TH LEGISLATURE

(Filing No. H-455)

COMMITTEE AMENDMENT " A " to H.P. 1162, L.D. 1461, Bill,  
"AN ACT to Amend the Taxing Provisions under the Catastrophic  
Illness and Medically Indigent Program."

Amend said Bill by inserting before the enacting clause  
the following:

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

Whereas, the 106th Legislature enacted the catastrophic  
illness program; and

Whereas, the 106th Legislature provided a 2¢ per pack  
increase in the cigarette tax to finance the legislation; and

Whereas, legislation is required to give the Legislature  
the right to declare when a similar federal program becomes  
effective and to determine when the 2¢ cigarette tax increase  
should be terminated; 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, '

Further amend said Bill by striking out everything after  
the enacting clause and inserting in place thereof the following:

Sec. 1.  
'22 MRSA §3454, 2nd ¶, 3rd sentence, as enacted by  
PL 1973, c. 768, §1, is repealed and the following enacted in  
place thereof:

The Legislature shall determine by joint order when any similar

federal program becomes effective.

Sec. 2. 36 MRSA §4365, 2nd and 3rd sentences, as enacted by PL 1973, c. 768, §2, are repealed and the following enacted in place thereof:

Any increase in tax authorized by the public laws of 1973, chapter 768, section 2, to fund catastrophic medical expenses shall terminate when the catastrophic medical expense for the medically indigent program is terminated or suspended by legislative action. In no event shall the funds that are raised by said tax increase, to the amount appropriated by the Legislature for said program, be made unavailable for the program except by the Legislature.

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 amendment is reflected in the emergency preamble.

Reported by the Committee on Taxation.

Reproduced and distributed under the direction of the Clerk of the House.  
5/23/75

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