

MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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STATE OF MAINE
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
107TH LEGISLATURE

(Filing No. H-461)

HOUSE AMENDMENT "A " to COMMITTEE AMENDMENT "A" to H.P.

1467, L.D. 1726, Bill, "AN ACT Relating to Verifying Facts Supporting the Eligibility of Applicants for Aid for Families with Dependent Children."

Amend said Amendment by striking out all of the first line of the 8th paragraph and inserting in place thereof the following:

'Sec. 1. 22 MRSA §§3757 and 3758 are enacted to read:'

Further amend said Bill by inserting before section 2 the following:

'§3758. Disbursements

1. Carrying account for unexpended balances. Notwithstanding any other provision of law and except as funds are necessary to carry out section 2 of this Act, funds appropriated for the aid to families with dependent children account shall not be transferred from such account and shall not lapse at the end of a fiscal year, but shall be carried forward from year to year to be expended for the same purpose. All unexpended balances of the account shall be expended pursuant to subsections 3 and 4.

2. Reduction of payments; limitation. No eligible beneficiarie's payment shall be reduced below the amount to which the family was entitled on December 31, 1974.

3. Analysis of unexpended balance. Each month, from the savings resulting from the error rate, the aid to families

with dependent children account shall be analyzed to determine if the unexpended balance is sufficient to provide for an increase in payment maximums. The balance to be analyzed shall be that as of the most recent month for which data is available, preferably the 2nd month preceding the month in which the analysis is made.

1. Payment maximums. Payment maximums shall be increased when the unexpended balance of the account is sufficient and when the amount of the monthly payment maximum shall not exceed an amount consistent with 1/12 of the annual lower level budget for a family of 4 people computed for Portland, Maine by the United States Department of Labor, Bureau of Labor Statistics. Subject to the availability of funds, such increase shall be no less than 5% of the current payment maximum rounded to the nearest dollar and shall be effective with checks issued the first month following the current month and shall be continued for the balance of the fiscal year. If the unexpended balance is not sufficient to provide for such an increase, it shall be expended to continue payments at current levels.'

Further amend said Amendment by striking out all of the last sentence of section 2.

Statement of Fact

The purpose of this amendment is to assure that funds appropriated for aid to families with dependent children are expended to assist the most truly needy citizens of Maine.

Filed by Mrs. Berube of Lewiston.

Reproduced and distributed under the direction of the Clerk of the House.
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