

MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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STATE OF MAINE
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES (Filing No. H-615)
107TH LEGISLATURE

HOUSE AMENDMENT "B" to S.P. 546, L.D. 1909, Bill,
"AN ACT Making Current Service Appropriations from the General
Fund for Expenditures of State Government for the Fiscal Year
Ending June 30, 1976 and June 30, 1977."

Amend said Bill in section 18 in that part which relates
to "DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH AND WELFARE" by striking out all
of that part relating to General Assistance and inserting
in place thereof the following:

'General Assistance		
All Other	2,922,000	3,122,000'

Further amend said Bill in section 18 in that part
which relates to "DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH AND WELFARE" by
amending the last line which relates to the Total Health and
Welfare to reflect the purpose of this amendment.

Further amend said Bill in section 18 in the last line
which relates to the Total Appropriations to reflect the
purpose of this amendment.

Statement of Fact

The 106th Legislature voted to eliminate "settlement" as
the method for establishing which city or town was liable
for the general assistance welfare costs of an individual. It
replaced this outdated method with a state reimbursement system
which reimburses communities for 90% of the general assistance
costs above a certain threshold level. The amount of money
a community must expend before being eligible for state
reimbursement is by state statute .6 of one mill times the
community's state valuation.

Neither the budget the Governor proposed nor the one recommended by the Appropriation Committee contained the appropriation necessary to recognize that the State Bureau of Property Taxation changed its state valuation from 50% of value to 100% of value when 1975 state valuation was certified.

This amendment will appropriate the moneys necessary to continue the state reimbursement of general assistance costs once communities exceed the threshold level adjusted to .3 of one mill times 1975 state valuation. The adjustment recognizes the change by the Bureau of Property Taxation to 100% of value and avoids an additional shift of welfare costs to the property tax.

Filed by Mr. Dam of Skowhegan.

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6/2/75

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