

STATE OF MAINE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES (Filing No. H-1296) 107TH LEGISLATURE FIRST SPECIAL SESSION

HOUSE AMENDMENT " \mathbb{R} " to S.P. 618, L. D. 1950, Bill, "AN ACT Relating to a Cost-of-Living Adjustment for State Retirees."

Amend said Bill by inserting at the beginning of the first line after the enacting clause the underlined abbreviation and figure 'Sec. 1.'

Further amend said Bill by inserting before the Statement of Fact the following:

'Sec. 2. Supplemental security income; mandatory and optional payments. It is the intent of the Legislature that any increases in the federal supplemental security income benefit levels, effective the same month as the federal increase takes effect, shall be passed along in the same total dollar amount of any such increase to each beneficiary in the optional program and to each beneficiary in the mandatory program who has not reached the state ceiling.

of Human Services The D epartment /shall immediately take action necessary to raise, effective July 1st, the state ceiling for an individual and for a couple in the same total dollar amount as the federal SSI increase. Such pass-along of a federal benefit increase shall not be made to individuals in foster homes or boarding homes. In the event that funds are available and without limiting the pass-alongs outlined herein, the department may, in its discretion, provide for increased payment rates to foster homes and boarding homes.

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Any unexpended balance of this account shall not be transferred to another account and shall not lapse, but shall be carried forward in the same account from year to year to be expended for the same purpose.'

Statement of Fact

The purpose of the amendment is to allow the Department of Human Servies to pass along the July federal cost-of-living increase to recipients of Supplemental Security Income Program.

Filed by Mrs. Goodwin of Bath.

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