

# MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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ONE HUNDRED AND EIGHTH LEGISLATURE

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Legislative Document

No. 300

H. P. 237

House of Representatives, February 9, 1977

Referred to the Committee on Performance Audit. Sent up for concurrence and ordered printed.

EDWIN H. PERT, Clerk

Presented by Mr. Strout of Corinth.

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STATE OF MAINE

IN THE YEAR OF OUR LORD NINETEEN HUNDRED  
SEVENTY-SEVEN

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AN ACT Relating to Expenditures of Municipalities for General Assistance.

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Be it enacted by the People of the State of Maine, as follows:

Sec. 1. 22 MRSA § 4499, as last amended by PL 1975, c. 293, § 4, is further amended to read:

§ 4499. Costs; limit

When a municipality incurs net costs for furnishing such general relief in any fiscal year in excess of ~~.0006~~ .0003 of that municipality's state valuation as determined by the State Tax Assessor in the statement filed by him as provided in Title 36, section 381, the Department of Human Services shall reimburse the municipality for 90% of the amount in excess of such expenditures which the department considers to be reasonable and appropriate. For the purposes of this section, the municipal officers shall submit to the Department of Human Services a monthly return on forms provided by the department stating the amount of net costs for furnishing general relief beginning at the end of the month in which the municipality's general relief expenditures exceed the ceiling formula stated in this section.

Sec. 2. Appropriation. There is appropriated from the General Fund to the Department of Human Services the sum of \$2,800,000 for the fiscal years ending June 30, 1978 and June 30, 1979 to carry out the purposes of this Act. The breakdown shall be as follows:

	1977-78	1978-79
HUMAN SERVICES, DEPARTMENT OF		
All Other	\$1,400,000	\$1,400,000

## STATEMENT OF FACT

The intent of this bill is to decrease the costs of General Assistance at the local level. A year ago the potential costs of General Assistance to local municipalities doubled because of the increase from 50% to 100% valuation base. This legislation would assist in restoring that previous level of state and local sharing of general assistance program costs.