

# MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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ONE HUNDRED AND EIGHTH LEGISLATURE

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Legislative Document

No. 527

H. P. 422

House of Representatives, February 17, 1977

Referred to Committee on Appropriations and Financial Affairs. Sent up for concurrence and ordered printed.

EDWIN H. PERT, Clerk

Presented by Mr. Dow of West Gardiner.

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STATE OF MAINE

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IN THE YEAR OF OUR LORD NINETEEN HUNDRED  
SEVENTY-SEVEN

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AN ACT Relating to the Costs of General Assistance.

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

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

When a municipality incurs net costs for furnishing such general relief in any fiscal year in excess of ~~.0006~~ .0005 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%~~ 100% of the amount in excess of such expenditures which the department considers to be reasonable and appropriate.

FISCAL NOTE

The Governor's budget contains a request for \$1.6 million for general assistance for fiscal year 1977-78. According to the Deputy Commissioner for Management, Budget and Policy, Department of Human Services, the cost of this Act would be \$343,653.50 in addition to the amount requested by the Governor.

STATEMENT OF FACT

The purpose of this bill is to reduce the cost to the municipality of the general assistance program.

Under present law :

1. Each municipality pays for 100% of the cost of general assistance up to .0006 of the municipality's state valuation and for 10% of the costs over .0006 of the state valuation ; and

2. The State pays for 90% of the costs of general assistance after a municipality has spent .0006 of the state valuation for general assistance.

Under the provisions of this bill the State pays for 100% of the costs of general assistance, after a municipality has spent .0005 of the state valuation for general assistance.