

MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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ONE HUNDRED AND EIGHTH LEGISLATURE

Legislative Document

No. 1406

H. P. 1178

House of Representatives, March 31, 1977

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

EDWIN H. PERT, Clerk

Presented by Mr. Burns of Anson.

STATE OF MAINE

IN THE YEAR OF OUR LORD NINETEEN HUNDRED
SEVENTY-SEVEN

AN ACT Concerning Reimbursement to Municipalities for Certain Public Assistance Provided to Aid to Dependent Children Applicants.

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

22 MRSA § 3759 is enacted to read:

§ 3759. Reimbursement of municipalities

1. **Definitions.** As used in this section, the following words shall have the following meanings:

A. An "application period" is the period of time between the date an eligible person applies for aid to dependent children under this chapter and the date on which the Department of Human Services first provides aid to dependent children benefits to that eligible person;

B. An "eligible person" is a person eligible to receive aid to dependent children benefits; and

C. "Retroactive benefits" are aid to dependent children benefits payable to an eligible person for his eligibility during an application period.

2. **Reimbursement required.** The Commissioner of Human Services shall, upon application by a municipality, reimburse that municipality for the amount of public assistance provided by that municipality under Part 5 to an eligible person during an application period. The commissioner shall make this reimbursement directly to the municipality by deducting the amount of public assistance paid by the municipality from the amount of retroactive benefits otherwise payable to that eligible person. If the amount of reimbursable public assistance exceeds the amount of those retroactive benefits,

the commissioner shall pay the full amount of those retroactive benefits to the municipality. In no case shall the commissioner deduct any reimbursement of municipal public assistance benefits from aid to dependent children benefits other than retroactive benefits.

STATEMENT OF FACT

This bill provides that the Commissioner of Human Services shall reimburse a municipality for the amount of any municipal public assistance paid to an eligible person applying for aid to dependent children during the time that person's application is pending. This reimbursement shall be made from any aid to dependent children benefits due to the applicant for the period during which his application is pending.