

MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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FIRST REGULAR SESSION

ONE HUNDRED AND NINTH LEGISLATURE

Legislative Document

No. 734

H. P. 587

House of Representatives, February 23, 1979

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

EDWIN H. PERT, Clerk

Presented by Mrs. Masterton of Cape Elizabeth.

Cosponsors: Mrs. Prescott of Hampden, Mr. Connolly of Portland and Boudreau of Waterville.

STATE OF MAINE

IN THE YEAR OF OUR LORD NINETEEN HUNDRED
SEVENTY-NINE

**AN ACT Making Adjustments in the Basic Need Standards and Payment
Maximums of the Aid to Families with Dependent Children Program.**

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

22 MRSA §§ 3759 and 3760 are enacted to read:

§ 3759. Standard of need

1. Adjustment of basic cost standard of need, July 1, 1979. On July 1, 1979, the department shall adjust the basic cost standard of need for families receiving aid to dependent children to equal the 1977 lower level budget for families as computed for Portland, Maine, by the United States Department of Labor, Bureau of Labor Statistics.

2. Adjustment of payment maximums, July 1, 1979. Upon adoption July 1, 1979, of the 1977 standard of need, the department shall adjust the aid to families with dependent children payment maximums to 67% of that standard.

3. Adjustment of payment maximums, July 1, 1980. On July 1, 1980, the department shall adjust the aid to families with dependent children payment maximums to 75% of the 1977 standard of need.

§ 3760. Annual adjustment of payments

Beginning July 1, 1981, and each July 1st thereafter, the department shall increase the aid to families with dependent children payment maximums by the same percentage increase provided by the United States Government to recipients of social security.

STATEMENT OF FACT

This bill does 4 things.

1. It adjusts the outdated 1969 standard of need level for aid to families with dependent children to a more realistic 1977 need level based on the Federal Bureau of Labor Statistics data for Maine.

2. It increases aid to families with dependent children payment maximums, which are now at 95% of the 1969 standard of need or 49% of the 1977 standard of need, to 67% of the 1977 need beginning July 1, 1979.

3. It increases payment maximums to 75% of the 1977 standard of need beginning July 1, 1980.

4. It provides for an automatic increase in the aid to families with dependent children payments similar to that now given to social security recipients. This provision will begin July 1, 1981.