

# MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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(New title)  
New draft: of H. P. 859, L. D. 1070  
FIRST REGULAR SESSION

Corrected Copy  
5/1/79

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ONE HUNDRED AND NINTH LEGISLATURE

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**Legislative Document**

**No. 1592**

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H. P. 1356

House of Representatives, May 1, 1979

Reported by the Majority from the Committee on Health and Institutional Services. Printed under Joint Rules No. 2.

EDWIN H. PERT, Clerk

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STATE OF MAINE

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IN THE YEAR OF OUR LORD NINETEEN HUNDRED  
SEVENTY-NINE

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**AN ACT Relating to State Participation in General Assistance Programs.**

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

**Sec. 1. 22 MRSA § 4499, first sentence**, as amended by PL 1977, c. 717, § 1, is further amended to read:

When a municipality incurs net general assistance costs in any fiscal year in excess of .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 when the department considers to be reasonable and appropriate finds that the municipality has been in compliance with all requirements of this chapter.~~

**Sec. 2. 22 MRSA § 4504, sub-§ 6** is enacted to read:

**6. Department assistance.** The department shall offer assistance to municipalities in complying with this chapter. The department may review the administration of the general assistance program of any municipality whether or not reimbursement is given. This review shall encompass an evaluation of whether or not the municipality is complying with the requirements of this

**chapter. The department shall report annually to the Legislature the name of each municipality which has not complied with this chapter after departmental review and 60 days' notice of noncompliance. The report shall also include the reasons for each determination of noncompliance by a municipality.**

#### STATEMENT OF FACT

The purposes of this bill are to:

1. Establish compliance with all requirements of the general assistance law as a condition of state reimbursement; and

2. Direct the Department of Human Services to assist municipalities in complying with the general assistance law, review any municipality's administration of the law and report to the Legislature any municipality failing to comply and the reasons for noncompliance.

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