

MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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FIRST REGULAR SESSION

ONE HUNDRED AND TENTH LEGISLATURE

Legislative Document

No. 443

H. P. 400

House of Representatives, January 26, 1981

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

EDWIN H. PERT, Clerk

Presented by Representative MacBride of Presque Isle.

Cosponsors: Representative Berube of Lewiston, Representative Cunningham of New Gloucester and Representative Connolly of Portland.

STATE OF MAINE

IN THE YEAR OF OUR LORD NINETEEN HUNDRED AND EIGHTY-ONE

AN ACT to Permit Rental Payments by Tender of General Assistance Vouchers.

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

14 MRSA § 6002, sub-§ 1, as last amended by PL 1979, c. 232, is further amended by adding at the end a new sentence to read:

Payment or written assurance of payment through the general assistance program, as authorized by the State or a municipality pursuant to Title 22, chapter 1251, shall be given the same effect as payment in cash.

STATEMENT OF FACT

Some landlords throughout the State have refused to accept general assistance vouchers from low-income families as payment for rent. These vouchers are always paid in full by the issuing municipality. The tenant receives no rental discount or special privileges under this system.

This bill does nothing more than require landlords to accept a guaranteed government voucher when or if any of their tenants are granted financial aid through the general assistance program.