

ONE HUNDRED AND TENTH LEGISLATURE

Legislative Document

No. 1270

H. P. 1067 Referred to the Committee on Energy and Natural Resources. Sent up for concurrence and ordered printed.

EDWIN H. PERT, Clerk

Presented by Representative Huber of Falmouth. Cosponsor: Representative Jalbert of Lewiston.

STATE OF MAINE

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

AN ACT to Ensure that those Homes Receiving Fuel Assistance are Winterized.

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

Sec. 1. 22 MRSA § 5203, sub-§ 3 is enacted to read:

3. Priority for those receiving fuel assistance. Notwithstanding subsection 2, priority in any case shall be given to any family or household which is eligible for and is receiving any form of state or federal fuel assistance. No work under this chapter may be undertaken for any household or family which is not receiving fuel assistance, in advance of work for households or families which are receiving fuel assistance, within the limitations of federal budget constraints and federal regulations.

Sec. 2. 22 MRSA § 5204, sub-§ 2, as enacted by PL 1977, c. 571, § 1, is amended to read:

2. Federal aid. To accept from any authorized agency of the Federal Government or the state grants for the home winterization program and to enter into agreements with such agency respecting any such grants, and to receive and accept aid and contributions from any source of either money, property, labor or other things of value, to be held, used and applied for only the purposes for which such loans, grants and contributions may be made. The Division of Community Services shall make every effort to retain any surplus money from grants for other programs to use in winterization or related programs; and

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STATEMENT OF FACT

Currently under the state winterization program no priority is established for households receiving fuel assistance. If public money is spent providing fuel for these households, they should be given priority under the winterization program to ensure that the fuel assistance is not wasted. This bill establishes that priority and also ensures that surplus funds will be retained for winterization programs.