

MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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1 FIRST REGULAR SESSION
2

3 ONE HUNDRED AND ELEVENTH LEGISLATURE
4

5 Legislative Document

No. 1064

6
7 H.P. 824 House of Representatives, March 4, 1983
8 Submitted by the Department of Human Services pursuant to Joint Rule
24.

9 On Motion of Representative Nelson of Portland, referred to the
10 Committee on Health and Institutional Services. Sent up for concurrence and
ordered printed.

EDWIN H. PERT, Clerk

Presented by Representative Paradis of Augusta.

11 Cosponsors: Representative Carroll of Gray and Representative Melendy
of Rockland.

12 STATE OF MAINE
13

14 IN THE YEAR OF OUR LORD
15 NINETEEN HUNDRED AND EIGHTY-THREE
16

17 AN ACT to Allow Access to Financial
18 Records of Public Assistance Recipients.
19

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

22 Sec. 1. 9-B MRSA §162, sub-§3 is enacted to
23 read:

24 3. Disclosure to the Department of Human Ser-
25 vices. The financial records are disclosed in
26 response to a written request from the Commissioner
27 of Human Services pursuant to Title 22, section 16.

28 Sec. 2. 22 MRSA §16 is enacted to read:

29 §16. Access to financial records of deposits and ac-
30 counts of recipients of public assistance

1 1. Definitions. For the purpose of this
2 section, unless the context indicates otherwise, the
3 following terms have the following meanings.

4 A. "Financial institutions" means a trust com-
5 pany, savings bank, industrial bank, savings and
6 loan association or credit union organized under
7 the laws of this State.

8 B. "Matching" means a name-by-name comparison of
9 individuals included in any public assistance
10 roll with individuals included in records of
11 deposits and accounts in any financial institu-
12 tion.

13 C. "Public assistance" means aid, assistance or
14 benefits available through:

15 (1) A program of Aid to Families with
16 Dependent Children administered in this
17 State pursuant to chapter 1053;

18 (2) A program of medical assistance admin-
19 istered in this State pursuant to chapter
20 855; and

21 (3) Any other program that is based on need
22 and is conducted or administered by this
23 State with federal assistance.

24 D. "Public assistance roll" means a list of
25 individuals who are receiving aid, assistance or
26 benefits in this State under one or more public
27 assistance programs. The list may include indi-
28 viduals whose applications for aid, assistance or
29 benefits are pending at the time of the matching.

30 2. Verification procedure. Upon written request
31 from the commissioner, each financial institution in
32 this State shall make its records of deposits and ac-
33 counts available to the department for the purpose of
34 periodic matching against public assistance rolls.
35 The department shall use the information made avail-
36 able by matching to assist in the verification of the
37 resources of each applicant for or recipient of
38 public assistance in an effort to determine the
39 extent to which the applicant or recipient or his

1 family or household is actually eligible for public
2 assistance. The department shall ensure that the
3 privacy of individuals involved in matching will be
4 protected to the maximum extent possible.

5 STATEMENT OF FACT

6 This measure enables the Commissioner of Human
7 Services to assess the financial records of public
8 assistance recipients to determine compliance with
9 eligibility standards.

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