

MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

The following document is provided by the
LAW AND LEGISLATIVE DIGITAL LIBRARY
at the Maine State Law and Legislative Reference Library
<http://legislature.maine.gov/lawlib>



Reproduced from scanned originals with text recognition applied
(searchable text may contain some errors and/or omissions)

1 FIRST REGULAR SESSION
2

3 ONE HUNDRED AND ELEVENTH LEGISLATURE
4

5 Legislative Document

No. 1218

6
7 H.P. 935

House of Representatives, March 16, 1983

8 On Motion of Representative Carter of Winslow, referred to the
9 Committee on Appropriations and Financial Affairs. Sent down for
concurrence and ordered printed.

10 EDWIN H. PERT, Clerk

Presented by Representative Connolly of Portland.
Cosponsor: Senator Brown of Washington.

11
12 STATE OF MAINE
13

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

17 AN ACT to Adjust Annually the Aid to
18 Families with Dependent Children's Standard
19 of Need to Eliminate Inflation-induced
20 Decreases in Recipients' Standard of Living.
21

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

24 22 MRSA §§3759 - 3763 are enacted to read:

25 §3759. Findings and purpose

26 Inflation has constantly eroded the aid to fam-
27 ilies with dependent children standard of need. The
28 present standard was first established in 1970 based
29 on the United States Bureau of Labor lower living
30 standard for 1969, with adjustments for the needs of
31 aid to families with dependent children families.
32 Since then, there have been only 2 increases in the
33 standard of need, which have brought the standard to

1 a level which is estimated to reflect an adequate
2 standard for 1974. It is the intent of the Legis-
3 lature that the standard be sufficient to ensure that
4 children and their families have the basic necessi-
5 ties essential to sustain a decent and healthy stan-
6 dard of living.

7 It is the purpose of this section to correct the
8 present situation, to require an annual adjustment to
9 accommodate present and future inflation and to re-
10 quire an additional adjustment annually in each of
11 the next 5 years sufficient to make the standard com-
12 pletely current and adequate by 1989.

13 §3760. Standard of need; increase

14 Effective July 1st each year, the commissioner
15 shall increase the standard of need by multiplying
16 the then current standard of need by a percentage
17 which reflects the total of the rate of inflation for
18 the immediately preceding calendar year and such ad-
19 ditional amount necessary to make the standard of
20 need completely current and adequate by 1989.

21 §3761. Study; report

22 By January 30, 1984, and in each year thereafter,
23 the commissioner shall study and report to the Legis-
24 lature regarding the adequacy of the aid to families
25 with dependent children standard of need and the
26 amount necessary to increase it in accordance with
27 section 3760.

28 §3762. Rate of inflation; measured

29 The rate of inflation shall be measured by the
30 percentage increase in the "National Consumer Price
31 Index for all Urban Consumers - United States City
32 Average" for the immediately preceding calendar year
33 as published by the United States Department of
34 Labor, Bureau of Labor Statistics.

35 §3763. Standard; measured

36 The completely current and adequate standard
37 shall be measured by the lower standard of living
38 budget published by the United States Department of

1 Labor, Bureau of Labor Standards.

2

STATEMENT OF FACT

3 This bill provides for annual adjustments in the
4 aid to families with dependent children standard of
5 need, which shall be the total of the rate of infla-
6 tion in the most recent year and the remaining dif-
7 ference between the present standard and a truly cur-
8 rent standard of need caused by past inflation.

9

1220020783