

MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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1 SECOND REGULAR SESSION
2

3 ONE HUNDRED AND ELEVENTH LEGISLATURE
4

5 Legislative Document

No. 2103

6
7 H.P. 1593

House of Representatives, February 24, 1984

8 Approved for introduction by the Legislative Council pursuant to Joint
9 Rule 26.

10 Referred to the Committee on Appropriations and Financial Affairs. Sent
up for concurrence and ordered printed.

EDWIN H. PERT, Clerk

Presented by Representative Connolly of Portland.

11 Cosponsors: Representative Murphy of Kennebunk, Senator Gill of
Cumberland and Representative Kelleher of Bangor.

12 STATE OF MAINE
13

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

17 AN ACT to Provide Funds for an Increase
18 in the Aid to Families with Dependent
19 Children's Standard of Need.
20

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

23 Appropriation. The following funds are appropri-
24 ated from the General Fund to carry out the purposes
25 of this Act.

26 HUMAN SERVICES, DEPARTMENT OF 1984-85
27

28 Aid to Families with Dependent
29 Children

30 All Other \$2,200,000

31 Provides funds which, in con-
32 junction with other available re-

1 sources, will permit a 10% increase
2 in the standard of need in 1984-85.

3 STATEMENT OF FACT

4 This bill is required to bring the AFDC Standard
5 of Need closer to the actual present cost of provid-
6 ing for children's needs. The present Standard of
7 Need is estimated to represent a 1974 standard of
8 living. The increase of 5% which has been appropri-
9 ated for the 2nd year of the budget is expected to
10 just cover the rate of inflation in the past year.
11 That budgeted increase will therefore not overcome
12 the severe effects of past inflation which have
13 eroded the purchasing power of AFDC grants faster
14 than all previous increases. This bill proposes an
15 additional increase to begin to close that gap.

16 The urgent nature of this bill is underscored by
17 the findings and recommendations of the Special Ad-
18 visory Committee on Children's Deaths in Maine, which
19 recognizes that major increases in the AFDC Standard
20 of Need are needed to protect poor children from se-
21 rious risks to their health and safety.

22 5251123083