

L.D. 847

(Filing No. H-71)

3 STATE OF MAINE 4 HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES 5 112TH LEGISLATURE FIRST REGULAR SESSION 6 HOUSE AMENDMENT "A" to 7 H.P. 576, L.D. 847, Bill, "AN ACT to Amend the Municipal General Assist-8 9 ance Law." 10 Amend the Bill by striking out everything after 11 the enacting clause and inserting in its place the 12 following: 13 'Sec. 1. 22 MRSA §4323-A is enacted to read: 14 §4323-A. Administrative grants <u>1.</u> Authorization. Effective July 1, 1986, the <u>Commissioner of Human Services may award annual</u> grants to municipalities up to a maximum of 20% of a 15 16 17 municipality's total general assistance costs, wheth-18 19 er reimbursed or not, in the municipality's immediately prior fiscal year; these grants to be for the 20 21 purposes in this section. 22 2. Purpose. The purpose of the grants is to facilitate the administration of general assistance el-23 24 igibility determinations and verifications at the mu-25 nicipal level. Grants shall be awarded on a competi-26 tive basis, with priority to the project or projects 27 which have the greatest potential for: 28 A. Improving the efficiency of the application 29 process and reducing the paperwork related to the 30 application process; 31 Assisting in verification of information used Β. in determining eligibility for general assist-32 33 ance; and 34 C. Reducing fraud.

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1	3. Distribution of grants. At least one grant
2	shall be made to a community with a population under
3	2,500, provided that there are eligible grant re-
4	quests from those communities. At least one grant
5	shall be made to a community with a population be-
6	tween 2,500 and 5,000, provided that there are eligi-
7	ble grant requests from those communities. At least
8	one grant shall be made to a community with a popula-
9	tion between 5,001 and 20,000, provided that there
10	are eligible grant requests from those communities.
11	Population figures shall be based on the the latest
12	census figures available.
13	4. Rulemaking. The commissioner shall propose
14	rules to implement the award of grants authorized in
15	this section within 90 days of the effective date of
16	this provision pursuant to the Maine Administrative
17	Procedure Act, Title 5, chapter 375, subchapter II.
18	5. Commissioner to report. The commissioner
19	shall report to the joint standing committee of the
20	Legislature having jurisdiction over appropriations
21	and financial affairs on the expenditures made under
22	this section.
23	Sec. 2. Appropriation. The following funds are
24	appropriated from the General fund to carry out the
25	purposes of this Act.
26	1986-87
27	HUMAN SERVICES, DEPARTMENT OF
28	General Assistance - Reimbursement
29	to Cities and Towns
30	All Other \$100,000'
31	STATEMENT OF FACT
32	This amendment modifies the grant program to make
33	it more feasible for smaller Maine communities to al-

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so participate in the grant awards. It changes the focus of the grants from solely automation oriented to an orientation in any administrative improvements, including automation. It also requires some grants to smaller communities and adds a reporting requirement and an appropriation.

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Filed by Rep. Rolde of York Reproduced and distributed under the direction of the Clerk of the House 4/12/85 (Filing No. H-71)