

MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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1 FIRST REGULAR SESSION
2

3 ONE HUNDRED AND TWELFTH LEGISLATURE
4

5 Legislative Document

No. 847

6
7 H.P. 576

House of Representatives, February 28, 1985

8 On Motion of Representative Nelson of Portland referred to the
9 Committee on Human Resources. Sent up for concurrence and ordered
printed.

EDWIN H. PERT, Clerk

10 Presented by Representative Manning of Portland.

Cosponsored by Representative Murray of Bangor, Representative Carroll
of Gray.

11
12 STATE OF MAINE
13

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

17 AN ACT to Amend the Municipal General
18 Assistance Law.
19

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

22 22 MRSA §4323-A is enacted to read:

23 §4323-A. Administrative grants

24 1. Authorization. Effective July 1, 1986, the
25 Commissioner of Human Services may award annual
26 grants to municipalities up to a maximum of 20% of a
27 municipality's total general assistance costs, wheth-
28 er reimbursed or not, in the municipality's immedi-
29 ately prior fiscal year, these grants to be for the
30 purposes in this section.

31 2. Purpose. The purpose of the grants is to en-
32 courage and facilitate the automation of general as-
33 sistance eligibility determinations and verifications
34 at the municipal level. Grants shall be awarded on a

1 competitive basis, with priority to the project or
2 projects which have the greatest potential for:

3 A. Improving the efficiency of the application
4 process and reducing the paperwork related to the
5 application process;

6 B. Assisting in verification of information used
7 in determining eligibility for general assist-
8 ance;

9 C. Coordination or applicable information from
10 various assistance programs, including, but not
11 limited to, unemployment compensation, Supplemen-
12 tal Security Income, Aid to Families with Depen-
13 dent Children and other similar state and federal
14 programs; and

15 D. Reducing fraud.

16 3. Rule making. The commissioner shall propose
17 rules to implement the award of grants authorized in
18 this section within 90 days of the effective date of
19 this provision pursuant to the Administrative Proce-
20 dure Act, Title 5, chapter 375, subchapter II.

21 STATEMENT OF FACT

22 This bill authorizes grants to municipalities to
23 assist them in automating their general assistance
24 application and administrative procedures. Priority
25 is to be given to projects which have the greatest
26 potential to improve administrative efficiency, re-
27 duce paperwork, permit coordination of information
28 needed for various federal and state assistance pro-
29 grams and reduce the potential for fraud. The autho-
30 rization results in substantial cost savings both to
31 the municipalities and to the State in administration
32 of various assistance programs. These grants are to
33 be awarded beginning July 1, 1986, pursuant to rules
34 to be promulgated by the commissioner.

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