

MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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1 FIRST REGULAR SESSION
2

3 ONE HUNDRED AND TWELFTH LEGISLATURE
4

5 Legislative Document

No. 850

6
7 H.P. 579

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.

10 EDWIN H. PERT, Clerk

Presented by Representative Warren of Scarborough.

11 Cosponsored by Representative Jackson of Harrison, Representative
Rioux of Biddeford and Representative Descoteaux of Biddeford.

12 STATE OF MAINE
13

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

17 AN ACT Concerning Work Requirements under the
18 General Assistance Program.
19

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

22 22 MRSA §4316, sub-§4, as amended by PL 1983, c.
23 697, §2, is further amended to read:

24 4. Municipal work program. In addition, a munic-
25 ipality ~~may~~ shall require that an otherwise eligible
26 person who is capable of working be required to per-
27 form work for the municipality as a condition of re-
28 ceiving general assistance. Any such work require-
29 ment shall be subject to the following provisions.

30 A. No person may, as a condition of general as-
31 sistance eligibility, be required to do any
32 amount of work that exceeds the value of the net
33 general assistance that the person would other-
34 wise receive under municipal general assistance
35 standards. Any person performing work under this

1 subsection shall be provided with net general as-
2 sistance, the value of which is computed at a
3 rate of at least the state's minimum wage.

4 B. In no case may eligible persons performing
5 work under this subsection replace regular munic-
6 ipal employees.

7 C. In no case may an eligible person in need of
8 emergency assistance be required to perform work
9 under this subsection prior to receiving general
10 assistance.

11 D. Expenses related to work performed under this
12 subsection by an eligible person shall be consid-
13 ered in determining the amount of net general as-
14 sistance to be provided to the person.

15 E. General assistance provided by a municipality
16 for work performed by an eligible person under
17 this subsection shall be:

18 (1) Included in the reimbursable net gener-
19 al assistance costs; and

20 (2) Itemized separately in reports to the
21 Department of Human Services under section
22 4311.

23 F. A municipality may waive the work requirement
24 for an individual when:

25 (1) The person provides sufficient evi-
26 dence, in the form of written statement from
27 a physician, that he is unable to work;

28 (2) The person provides sufficient evidence
29 on a weekly basis that he is diligently
30 seeking employment and has been unable to
31 find employment; or

32 (3) The municipality has no suitable work
33 for the person.

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STATEMENT OF FACT

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The purpose of this bill is to mandate that eligible persons participate in municipal "workfare" programs as a condition for receipt of general assistance.

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