

MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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1 FIRST REGULAR SESSION
2

3 ONE HUNDRED AND TWELFTH LEGISLATURE
4

5 Legislative Document

No. 1121
6

7 H.P. 791

House of Representatives, March 26, 1985

8 Reference to the Committee on Appropriations and Financial Affairs
9 suggested and ordered printed.

10 EDWIN H. PERT, Clerk

Presented by Representative Connolly of Portland.

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 Municipal General Assistance.
18

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

21 Sec. 1. 22 MRSA §4301, sub-§1-A is enacted to
22 read:

23 1-A. Administrative costs. "Administrative
24 costs" means those direct costs incurred by a munici-
25 pality in administering its general assistance pro-
26 gram in accordance with regulations promulgated by
27 the commissioner, including, but not limited to, sal-
28 aries, fringe benefits, supplies, equipment, office
29 space, utilities, insurance and other costs and ex-
30 penses arising out of and related to the
31 municipality's general assistance program and ser-
32 vices provided under the program. Administrative
33 costs shall not include attorney's fees for either an
34 eligible person or a municipality unless the fees are
35 awarded by a final decree of a court of competent ju-
36 risdiction and no appeal of the decree is pending.

1 Sec. 2. 22 MRSA §4301, sub-§11, as enacted by PL
2 1983, c. 577, §1, is amended to read:

3 11. Net general assistance costs. "Net general
4 assistance costs" means those direct costs incurred
5 by a municipality in providing assistance to eligible
6 persons according to standards established by the mu-
7 nicipal officers ~~and does not include the administra-~~
8 ~~tive expenses of the general assistance program, in-~~
9 cluding administrative costs.

10 STATEMENT OF FACT

11 This bill permits reimbursement of a
12 municipality's administrative costs related to admin-
13 istration of the state-mandated general assistance
14 program. At the present time, administrative costs
15 are specifically excluded from the definition of gen-
16 eral assistance costs and are not eligible for state
17 reimbursement. State law does require a substantial
18 administrative commitment from the municipality in
19 order to implement the law. These state-mandated
20 costs are necessary to administer the general assist-
21 ance program to be eligible for reimbursement.

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