

MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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L.D. 1309

(Filing No. H- 384)

STATE OF MAINE
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
112TH LEGISLATURE
FIRST REGULAR SESSION

COMMITTEE AMENDMENT "A" to H.P. 916, L.D. 1309, Bill, "AN ACT to Improve the Administration of General Assistance."

Amend the bill by striking out everything after the enacting clause and inserting in its place the following:

'Sec. 1. Commission established. There is established a Special Select Commission on the Administration and Financing of General Assistance, which shall investigate present and alternative methods of administering and financing the general assistance program within the State.

1. Membership. The commission shall consist of 13 members as follows: Three representatives from the Joint Standing Committee on Human Resources, appointed by the Speaker of House; one Senator from the Joint Standing Committee on Human Resources, appointed by the President of the Senate; one representative of the Department of Human Services, appointed by the Commissioner of Human Services; and 2 representatives of municipalities, not from the same municipality, one appointed by the Speaker of the House and one appointed by the President of the Senate, in consultation with the Maine Municipal Association; 2 municipal welfare directors or assessors, one appointed by the Speaker of the House, one appointed by the President of the Senate, in consultation with the Welfare Director Association; 2 representatives of private nonprofit charitable organizations with knowledge and experience in general assistance, one appointed by the Speaker of the House and one by the President of the Senate; and 2 representatives of low-income recipients of general assistance; one appointed by the Speaker of the House and one by the

COMMITTEE AMENDMENT "A" to H.P. 916, L.D. 1309

1 President of the Senate.

2 2. Duties. The commission shall inquire into
3 the experience and adequacy of the present methods of
4 administration and financing of the general assist-
5 ance program and the extent to which low-income citi-
6 zens currently receive the benefits provided by law
7 and required to provide the basic necessities essen-
8 tial to maintain themselves and their families. The
9 commission shall investigate alternative methods of
10 administration of the financing of the general as-
11 sistance program to more completely, efficiently or
12 more equitably meet the program's objectives. The
13 commission's inquiry shall include, but not be lim-
14 ited to, whether the State should assume more com-
15 plete responsibility for financing and administering
16 general assistance. The commission shall make recom-
17 mendations to the Second Regular Session of the 112th
18 Legislature, including recommended changes in the
19 laws, administration and appropriations.

20 3. Staff assistance. The Department of Human
21 Services and the Division of Community Services shall
22 provide research, clerical and computer assistance to
23 the commission and give unrestricted access to their
24 records, rules, policies and data, except for those
25 items which they are legally obligated to keep confi-
26 dential.

27 4. Procedure of per diem. The commission shall
28 hold an organizational meeting, called by the Chair-
29 man of the Legislative Council, within 30 days of the
30 effective date of this Act and shall elect a chairman
31 and a vice-chairman at that meeting from any of the
32 members.

33 Sec. 2. Appropriation. The following funds are
34 appropriated from the General Fund to carry out the
35 purposes of this Act.

COMMITTEE AMENDMENT "A" to H.P. 916, L.D. 1309

1		<u>1985-86</u>
2	<u>LEGISLATURE</u>	
3	Special Select Commission on the	
4	Administration and Financing	
5	of General Assistance	
6	All Other	\$7,850'

7 STATEMENT OF FACT

8 This amendment deletes everything from the origi-
9 nal bill, except a study of general assistance. This
10 amendment changes the reporting date and reduces the
11 appropriation.

Reported by the Committee on Human Resources
Reproduced and distributed under the direction of the
Clerk of the House

6/11/85

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