

MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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1 SECOND REGULAR SESSION
2

3 ONE HUNDRED AND TWELFTH LEGISLATURE
4

5 Legislative Document

No. 1876

6
7 H.P. 1339

House of Representatives, January 16, 1986

8 Approved for introduction by a majority of the Legislative Council
pursuant to Joint Rule 26.

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

10 EDWIN H. PERT, Clerk

Presented by Representative Lisnik of Presque Isle.

Cosponsored by Representative Chonko of Topsham and Representative
Allen of Washington.

11
12 STATE OF MAINE
13

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

17 AN ACT to Insure Training and Employment
18 Opportunities for All Aid to Families
19 with Dependent Children Recipients.
20

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

23 Appropriation. The following funds are appropri-
24 ated from the General Fund to carry out the purposes
25 of this Act.

26 1986-87

27 HUMAN SERVICES, DEPARTMENT OF

28 Welfare Employment, Education
29 and Training Program

30 All Other

\$296,000

31 Provides funds to
32 maintain direct Wel-
33 fare Employment, Edu-
34 cation and Training

1 Services at current
2 levels.

3 STATEMENT OF FACT

4 The Welfare Employment, Education and Training
5 Program provides employment and training opportuni-
6 ties to Aid to Families with Dependant Children reci-
7 recipients seeking to become self-sufficient. Maine's
8 Welfare Employment, Education and Training Program,
9 initiated in 1982, has attracted national attention
10 as an innovative and successful model for assisting
11 Aid to Families with Dependant Children recipients
12 move from welfare to work. Since its inception, the
13 Welfare Employment, Education and Training Program
14 has provided 2,700 Aid to Families with Dependant
15 Children parents with education and training opportu-
16 nities and 4,500 parents enrolled in the program have
17 found employment. These efforts have resulted in an
18 estimated 11.5 million dollars in savings in Aid to
19 Families with Dependant Children payments. The suc-
20 cess of the program may also be measured by the fact
21 that more than 2 1/2 times more Aid to Families with
22 Dependant Children recipients volunteer for the Wel-
23 fare Employment, Education and Training Program than
24 did for its predecessor, the Work Incentive Program.

25 The demand for employment and training services
26 is now much greater than the program can provide.
27 The future success of the Welfare Employment, Educa-
28 tion and Training Program in enabling Aid to Families
29 with Dependant Children recipients to move from wel-
30 fare to work depends on the availability of program
31 funds for client services. Decreased federal dollars
32 and increased personnel and operating costs have ef-
33 fectively reduced the number of persons that can re-
34 ceive services. This bill provides funds to maintain
35 those services at current levels.

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