

SECOND REGULAR SESSION

	ONE HUNDRED AND THIRTEENTH LEGISLATURE
Leg	slative Document NO. 2390
sugo Pres	1744 House of Representatives, March 1, 1988 Reference to the Committee on Economic Development ested and ordered printed. EDWIN H. PERT, Clerk ented by Representative FOSS of Yarmouth. Cosponsored by Representatives GLIDDEN of Houlton, NADEAU ewiston and Senator DUTREMBLE of York.
<u></u>	STATE OF MAINE
	IN THE YEAR OF OUR LORD NINETEEN HUNDRED AND EIGHTY-EIGHT
	AN ACT to Establish the Additional Support for People in Retraining and Education Program.
	t enacted by the People of the State of Maine a ows:
	Sec. 1. 22 MRSA §3106 is enacted to read:
<u>§31</u> (6. Telephone subsidies
	Page 1-LR4694

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1 2	The department may participate in the determination of eligibility for various subsidies of
3	telephone costs for low-income people as established
$\tilde{4}$	by the Public Utilities Commission.
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5	Sec. 2. 22 MRSA c. 1052-A is enacted to read:
б	CHAPTER 1052-A
7	ADDITIONAL SUPPORT FOR PEOPLE IN
8	RETRAINING AND EDUCATION PROGRAM
9	§3731. Additional Support for People in Retraining
10	and Education Program
11	1. Administration. The Additional Support for
12	People in Retraining and Education Program shall be
13	administered by the Department of Human Services in cooperation with the Department of Labor, the
14	cooperation with the Department of Labor, the
15	Department of Educational and Cultural Services and
16	other state agencies which may have responsibilities
17	related to the goals of the program.
18	2. Purpose; goal. The program's purpose is to
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	provide services and support to recipients of Aid to
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20	provide services and support to recipients of Aid to
20 21	Families with Dependent Children and food stamps designed to foster economic self-sufficiency and to
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Page 2-LR4694

provision of skills training; provision of access to education; and job placements.

Sec. 3. 22 MRSA §3741, as amended by PL 1983, c. 849, §1, is further amended to read:

§3741. Aid to dependent children

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the Additional Support for The As part of 7 People in Retraining and Education Program, the department may administer and operate a program of aid to dependent children within the United States Social 8 9 10 and any amendments additions Security Act and thereto, including special waiver provisions. The department shall also implement and operate a program 11 12 13 of aid to the dependent children of intact families with unemployed parents in accordance with the United 15 States Code, Title 42, Section 607, as amended.

16 22 MRSA §3773, sub-§3, ¶F, as repealed Sec. 4. 17 and replaced by PL 1983, c, 730, §5, is amended to 18 read:

> F. Ensuring that there is substantial between the Welfare Employment, coordination Education and Training Program and the Federal Job Training Partnership Act or its successors in the operation of the Additional Support for People in Retraining and Education Program; and

Sec. 5. 22 MRSA §3776, sub-§3, ¶A, as amended by PL 1983, c. 730, §7, is further amended to read:

The assessment procedure for each registrant Α. shall be accomplished through direct personal contact with staff of the Welfare Employment, and Training Program, or with staff Education contracted, monitored and evaluated by staff of Welfare Employment, Education and Training am. The staff shall be advised by the the Program. Department of Educational and Cultural Services of available education and training all opportunities, and shall make that information available to each registrant during the assessment process.

Page 3-LR4694

1	Sec. 6. 22 MRSA §3779 is enacted to read:
2	§3779. Medical insurance subsidy program
3	The department may implement a medical insurance
4	subsidy program for former recipients of Aid to
5	Families with Dependent Children who have obtained
6	employment through the Welfare Employment, Education
7	and Training Program or the Additional Support for
8	People in Retraining and Education Program and who do
9	not have medical insurance provided as a benefit of
10	employment.
11	<pre>Sec. 7. 22 MRSA §4311, sub-§1-B is enacted to</pre>
12	read:
13	1-B. Demonstration programs. The department may,
14	at the discretion of the commissioner, establish
15	demonstration programs of reimbursement to
16	municipalities for administrative costs in operation
17	of general assistance. Demonstrations may be
18	conducted on a competitive basis and be in effect for
19	limited periods of time.
20	FISCAL NOTE

FISCAL NOTE

21 This bill necessitates General а Fund appropriation of \$5,726,183. This amount has 22 been included, for this purpose, in the Governor's 23 24 Supplemental Appropriation requests for fiscal year 1988-89. 25

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STATEMENT OF FACT

27 This bill implements the Additional Support for 28 People in Retraining and Education Program.

Low-income families, particularly those headed by single mothers, face serious barriers in achieving independence and well-being. Over half of all 29 30 31

Page 4-LR4694

families with a female head of household in the United States are poor and well over half of mothers receiving Aid to Families with Dependent Children, AFDC, became mothers when they were teenagers.

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The program comprehensively addresses the interrelated social, health and economic problems which often force families and their children onto public assistance. This bill proposes systematic reform of the welfare program by recognizing special needs arising with teenage parenthood, the the lack of affordable child care, transportation and health care even when families do succeed in becoming ineligible for public assistance, the importance of education, training and job placement efforts to accommodate individual needs and circumstances, the vulnerability of single mothers, particularly the inadequacy of child support levels and enforcement of the child support orders. The mechanism for providing needed services is an individual agreement signed between each client and the Department of Human Services.

22 Section 1 authorizes the department to cooperate 23 with the Public Utilities Commission in determining 24 individual eligibility for various telephone subsidy 25 programs.

26 Section 2 establishes the Additional Support for 27 People in Retraining and Education Program which 28 such elements public assistance, includes as 29 training and employment opportunities, education, 30 child support enforcement services and other support 31 services.

32 This program shall include an additional fraud 33 investigation effort.

34 Section 3 authorizes the department to seek 35 special waivers to federal regulations in order to 36 develop programs suitable for this State.

37 Section 4 identifies the responsibilities of the 38 AFDC Coordinating Committee within the context of the 39 program.

Page 5-LR4694

1 Section 5 authorizes the Department of Human 2 Services to contract out services of the Welfare 3 Employment, Education and Training Program, which 4 shall be monitored by in-house staff.

5 Section 6 authorizes the Department of Human 6 Services to establish a program subsidy for medical 7 insurance costs incurred by certain former enrollees 8 in the Welfare, Employment, Education and Training 9 Program.

10 Section 7 authorizes the Department of Human 11 Services to establish demonstration programs of 12 reimbursement of administrative costs to 13 municipalities for general assistance programs.

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Page 6-LR4694

14