

# MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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# 114th MAINE LEGISLATURE

FIRST REGULAR SESSION - 1989

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Legislative Document

No. 222

H.P. 157

House of Representatives, February 16, 1989

Reference to the Committee on Human Resources suggested and ordered printed.

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Ed Pert".

EDWIN H. PERT, Clerk

Presented by Representative HOLT of Bath.

Cosponsored by Representative LISNIK of Presque Isle, Senator PEARSON of Penobscot and Representative PARADIS of Old Town.

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STATE OF MAINE

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IN THE YEAR OF OUR LORD  
NINETEEN HUNDRED AND EIGHTY-NINE

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An Act Concerning Public Assistance Eligibility.

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

3 22 MRSA §9-A is enacted to read:

5 §9-A. Public assistance eligibility

7 1. Definitions. As used in this section, unless the  
8 context otherwise indicates, the following terms have the  
9 following meanings.

11 A. Public assistance means any of the following:

13 (1) Aid to families with dependent children under  
14 chapter 1053;

15 (2) Food stamp assistance under section 3104;

16 (3) General assistance under chapter 855 and any  
17 state-funded portion under chapter 1161; and

18 (4) Medical assistance under chapter 855.

21 2. Agent Orange award; eligibility not affected. In  
22 determining eligibility for public assistance, any money or other  
23 form of compensation received by a person as a result of a  
24 settlement agreement or a money judgment in a law suit against a  
25 manufacturer or distributor of Agent Orange for damages resulting  
26 from exposure to Agent Orange may not reduce the amount of public  
27 assistance otherwise received by that person and is not subject  
28 to a lien or available for repayment to the State or municipality  
29 for public assistance received by that person.

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35 **STATEMENT OF FACT**

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37 The purpose of this bill is to ensure that any money  
38 received as a result of a successful Agent Orange claim or  
39 settlement will not be used to reduce the amount of public  
assistance received by an individual.