

MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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114th MAINE LEGISLATURE

FIRST REGULAR SESSION - 1989

Legislative Document

No. 646

S.P. 256

In Senate, March 7, 1989

Reference to the Committee on Taxation suggested and ordered printed.

A handwritten signature in cursive script, reading "Joy J. O'Brien".

JOY J. O'BRIEN
Secretary of the Senate

Presented by Senator BALDACCI of Penobscot.
Cosponsored by Representative DUFFY of Bangor.

STATE OF MAINE

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

An Act to Allow Disabled People to Receive Rent Rebates.



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

3 **Sec. 1. 36 MRSA §6201, sub-§2-A is enacted to read:**

5 2-A. Disabled household. "Disabled household" means a
7 household in which at least one member of the household is a
9 disabled individual as defined in the United States Social
11 Security Act, Title XVI, Section 1614, as amended.

13 **Sec. 2. 36 MRSA §6206, as enacted by PL 1987, c. 516, §§3 and**
15 **6, is amended to read:**

17 **§6206. Income limitations for elderly and disabled households**

19 A claimant representing an elderly or disabled household
21 shall qualify for the following benefits subject to the following
23 income limitations.

25 **1. Single-member elderly or disabled households.** For
27 single-member elderly or disabled households, the benefit shall
29 be calculated as follows:

23	If household income equals:	The benefit equals:
25	\$ 0 to \$6,800	100% of the benefit base up to a maximum of \$400
27	\$6,801 to \$7,000	75% of the benefit base up to a maximum of \$300
29	\$7,001 to \$7,200	50% of the benefit base up to a maximum of \$200
31	\$7,201 to \$7,400	25% of the benefit base up to a maximum of \$100

33 **2. Elderly or disabled households with 2 or more members.**
35 For elderly or disabled households with 2 or more members, the
37 benefit shall be calculated as follows:

41	If household income equals:	The benefit equals:
43	\$ 0 to \$8,100	100% of the benefit base up to a maximum of \$400
45	\$8,101 to \$8,500	75% of the benefit base up to a maximum of \$300
47	\$8,501 to \$8,800	50% of the benefit base up to a maximum of \$200

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\$8,801 to \$9,200

25% of the benefit base up to a maximum of \$100

3. **Minimum benefit.** No claim of less than \$5 may be granted.

Sec. 3. 36 MRSA §6207, as amended by PL 1987, c. 876, §§5 and 10, is further amended to read:

§6207. Income limitations for nonelderly and nondisabled households

A claimant representing a nonelderly or nondisabled household shall qualify for the following benefits subject to the following income limitations.

1. **Benefit calculation.** For claimants representing a nonelderly or nondisabled household, the benefit is 50% of the amount by which the benefit base exceeds 4.5% of income to a maximum payment of \$400.

2. **Income eligibility.** Claimants with household incomes in excess of \$28,000 are not eligible for a benefit.

3. **Subsidized housing.** No claim may be granted under this section to claimants whose housing costs for the year for which relief is requested were subsidized by government programs which limit housing costs to a percentage of household income.

4. **Minimum benefit.** No claim of less than \$5 may be granted.

Sec. 4. 36 MRSA §6208, as enacted by PL 1987, c. 516, §§3 and 6, is amended to read:

§6208. Elderly or disabled option

If a claimant representing an elderly or disabled household would qualify for a larger benefit under section 6207 than he the claimant would receive under section 6206, then that claimant may choose to receive the benefit calculated under section 6207.

STATEMENT OF FACT

This bill provides for a rent refund to households in which at least one member is a disabled person. Claimants representing disabled households qualify for the same benefits as those representing elderly households under the Elderly Householders Tax and Rent Refund Act.