

MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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114th MAINE LEGISLATURE

SECOND REGULAR SESSION - 1990

Legislative Document

No. 2430

S.P. 963

In Senate, March 14, 1990

Reported by Senator GAUVREAU of Androscoggin for the Commission to Evaluate the Adequacy of the Aid to Families with Dependent Children Need and Payment Standards pursuant to Public Law 1989, chapter 501, Part S.

Reference to the Committee on Appropriations and Financial Affairs suggested and ordered printed pursuant to Joint Rule 18.

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Joy J. O'Brien".

JOY J. O'BRIEN
Secretary of the Senate

STATE OF MAINE

IN THE YEAR OF OUR LORD
NINETEEN HUNDRED AND NINETY

An Act to Provide for Annual Increases in the Aid to Families with Dependent Children Standard of Need.

(EMERGENCY)



Emergency preamble. Whereas, Acts of the Legislature do not become effective until 90 days after adjournment unless enacted as emergencies; and

Whereas, the current maximum monthly payment for a mother and child on Aid to Families with Dependent Children is \$337; and

Whereas, despite frequent increases in the Aid to Families with Dependent Children standard of need in the past 10 years, the standard has not kept pace with inflation; and

Whereas, the current maximum payment provides approximately 54% of the amount established as the federal poverty line, and costs of housing and other basic necessities continue to rise dramatically; and

Whereas, in the judgment of the Legislature, these facts create an emergency within the meaning of the Constitution of Maine and require the following legislation as immediately necessary for the preservation of the public peace, health and safety; now, therefore,

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

Sec. 1. 22 MRSA §3759, as enacted by PL 1983, c. 477, Pt. E, sub-pt. 8, is repealed.

Sec. 2. 22 MRSA §3759-A is enacted to read:

§3759-A. Increases in standard of need

1. Report of the commissioner. The commissioner shall report annually by October 1st:

A. The percentage increase in the federal Consumer Price Index For All Urban Consumers in the previous calendar year and the projected amount of funds required to provide the same percentage increase in the Aid to Families with Dependent Children standard of need effective July 1st of the following year;

B. The difference between the standard of need and the standard of living as measured by the federal poverty line. "Federal poverty line" means the federal poverty line established pursuant to the federal Omnibus Budget Reconciliation Act of 1981, Public Law 97-35, Sections 652 and 673(2); and

C. The amount of additional increase necessary to meet the poverty line within 5 years.

2. Increase in standard of need. On July 1, 1990, and each year thereafter, the Aid to Families with Dependent Children

2 standard of need and payment maximum are increased by the
3 percentage increase in the Federal Consumer Price Index in the
4 previous calendar year.

5 **Sec. 3. Appropriation.** The following funds are appropriated
6 from the General Fund to carry out the purposes of this Act.

	1990-91
10 HUMAN SERVICES, DEPARTMENT OF	
12 Aid to Families with Dependent	
13 Children	
14	
15 All Other	\$1,718,467
16	
17 Provides funds for annual increases in the	
18 Aid to Families with Dependent Children	
19 standard of need and payment maximum	
20 beginning July 1, 1990 and based on the rate	
21 of inflation in calendar year 1989.	
22	
23 Medical Care - Payment to	
24 Providers	
25	
26 All Other	\$205,656
27	
28 Provides funds for increased medical	
29 payments resulting from increases in the Aid	
30 to Families with Dependent Children standard	
31 of need.	
32	
33 DEPARTMENT OF HUMAN SERVICES	
34 TOTAL	<u>\$1,924,123</u>

35 **Sec. 4. Allocation.** The following funds are allocated from the
36 Federal Expenditure Fund to carry out the purposes of this Act.

	1990-91
37	
38	
39	
40 HUMAN SERVICES, DEPARTMENT OF	
41	
42 Aid to Families with Dependent	
43 Children	
44	
45 All Other	\$3,044,468
46	
47 Medical Care - Payment to	
48 Providers	
49	
50 All Other	\$364,344

