

# MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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# 115th MAINE LEGISLATURE

## FIRST REGULAR SESSION-1991

Legislative Document

No. 330

H.P. 239

House of Representatives, February 5, 1991

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

EDWIN H. PERT, Clerk

Presented by Representative MANNING of Portland.

Cosponsored by Representative JOSEPH of Waterville, Senator BRANNIGAN of Cumberland and Representative PARADIS of Frenchville.

STATE OF MAINE

IN THE YEAR OF OUR LORD  
NINETEEN HUNDRED AND NINETY-ONE

**An Act to Increase Funding to Programs Dealing with Domestic  
Violence.**



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

4 Sec. 1. 22 MRSA §8502 is enacted to read:

6 §8502. Funds for domestic violence programs

8 1. Special account. The department shall deposit funds  
10 received in accordance with Title 30-A, section 2652, subsection  
12 2, to a dedicated revenue account. Funds remaining in the  
14 account at the end of each fiscal year do not lapse, but carry  
16 forward to subsequent years.

18 2. Funds to be used for domestic violence programs. The  
20 department shall distribute funds collected under this section to  
22 programs or agencies that operate shelters or safe homes for  
24 victims of domestic violence. The department shall ensure that  
26 recipient programs or agencies use the funds only to operate the  
28 shelters or safe homes.

30 3. Rules. The department shall adopt rules that specify  
32 how the funds are distributed among the participating programs or  
34 agencies. The rules must provide that funds be distributed at  
36 least twice each fiscal year.

38 4. Annual report. The department shall submit a report  
40 annually, beginning October 1, 1992, to the joint standing  
42 committee of the Legislature having jurisdiction over human  
44 resource matters. A copy of the report must be sent to the  
46 Executive Director of the Legislative Council. The report must  
48 describe activities of the department under this section,  
50 including a statement of revenue collected and programs funded  
52 for the preceding fiscal year.

Sec. 2. 30-A MRSA §2652, sub-§2, as amended by PL 1989, c.  
104, Pt. C, §§8 and 10, is further amended to read:

2. Marriage intentions and license. Recording marriage  
intentions and issuing a marriage license, \$10 \$50, except, where  
when the laws of this State require 2 licenses, the fee is \$5 \$25  
each. The clerk shall forward monthly to the Department of  
Human Services \$37 of each fee of \$50 collected and \$18.50 of  
each fee of \$25 collected and the department shall deposit the  
funds in a dedicated revenue account for the support of domestic  
violence programs in accordance with Title 22, section 8502. A  
person may ask for a waiver of the fee by presenting to the clerk  
a written request stating:

A. The person's monthly income and necessary monthly  
expenses;

B. That the person possesses no other source from  
which the marriage fee may reasonably be paid; and

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C. That the request is filed in good faith.

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If the clerk finds that the person does not have sufficient funds to pay the marriage fee, the clerk shall waive the fee;

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### STATEMENT OF FACT

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The bill increases the fee for obtaining a marriage license from \$10 to \$50, and earmarks the increase to fund domestic violence programs through the Department of Human Services. Three dollars of the increase is kept by the collecting municipality to cover administrative costs. A fee waiver is provided for those who can not afford the license fee.

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