

MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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STATE OF MAINE
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
115TH LEGISLATURE
FIRST REGULAR SESSION

COMMITTEE AMENDMENT "A" to H.P. 384, L.D. 558, Bill, "An Act Concerning Late Support Payments"

Amend the bill by striking out everything after the enacting clause and before the statement of fact and inserting in its place the following:

Sec. 1. 19 MRSA §494-B is enacted to read:

§494-B. Notices; readability

By July 1, 1992, all notices provided by the department under this subchapter must have a readability score, as determined by a recognized instrument for measuring adult literacy levels, equivalent to no higher than a 6th-grade reading level.

Sec. 2. 19 MRSA §501-A is enacted to read:

§501-A. Notice of requirement of prompt payment

In any case in which a debt is owed by a responsible parent under section 495, the department shall notify the responsible parent, on any billing sent for the purpose of child support collection, that payment must be received in the month when due and that failure to make timely payment may result in child support being retained by the department that would otherwise be paid to that parent's child. The notice must have a readability score, as determined by a recognized instrument for measuring adult literacy levels, equivalent to no higher than a 6th-grade reading level.

COMMITTEE AMENDMENT "A" to H.P. 384, L.D. 558

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

2		
4		1991-92
6	HUMAN SERVICES, DEPARTMENT OF	
8	Administration - Income Maintenance	
10	Personal Services	\$15,863
	All Other	6,507
12		
14	Provides funds for a Clerk Typist II project	
16	position and costs related to rewriting	
18	forms related to child support enforcement	
	to a readability level of no higher than a	
	6th-grade reading level.	
20	DEPARTMENT OF HUMAN SERVICES	
	TOTAL	<hr/> \$22,370

Sec. 4. Allocation. The following funds are allocated from Federal Expenditures to carry out the purposes of this Act.

24		
26		1991-92
28	HUMAN SERVICES, DEPARTMENT OF	
30	Administration - Income Maintenance	
32	All Other	\$43,423
34		
36	Provides for the allocation of federal	
38	matching funds for costs associated with	
	rewriting forms related to child support	
	enforcement to a readability level of no	
	higher than a 6th-grade reading level.	

FISCAL NOTE

42		1991-92
44	APPROPRIATIONS/ALLOCATIONS	
46	General Fund	\$22,370
48	Other Funds	43,423
50	REVENUES	
	General Fund	\$22,370

Other Funds

43,423

2

4

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STATEMENT OF FACT

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This amendment requires that, by July 1, 1992, all notices given by the Department of Human Services in support collection cases have a readability level of no higher than a 6th-grade reading level. It also requires the department to notify responsible parents that late payments may be retained by the department rather than being paid to the child.

Reported by the Committee on Human Resources
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