

# MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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DATE: May 4, 1995

(Filing No. S-109 )

**HUMAN RESOURCES**

Reported by: Senator PENDEXTER of Cumberland for the Committee.

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**STATE OF MAINE  
SENATE  
117TH LEGISLATURE  
FIRST REGULAR SESSION**

COMMITTEE AMENDMENT " A" to S.P. 247, L.D. 644, Bill, "An Act to Expand Eligibility for Benefits under the Adoption Assistance Program"

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

'Sec. 1. 19 MRSA §1142, as enacted by PL 1993, c. 686, §5 and affected by §13, is repealed and the following enacted in its place:

**§1142. Adoption assistance**

**1. Application.** Applications for the Adoption Assistance Program may be submitted by the following persons:

A. Foster parents interested in adopting an eligible child in their care;

B. Other persons interested in adopting an eligible child; and

C. Adoptive parents who were not informed of the program or of facts relevant to the child's eligibility when they adopted a child who was at the time of adoption eligible for participation in the program.

**2. Standards.** All applicants for the Adoption Assistance Program must meet department standards for adoption except for financial eligibility.

**3. Assistance.** Assistance may be provided for special needs only and may be varied based on the special needs of the

**COMMITTEE AMENDMENT**

R 4 of 8

COMMITTEE AMENDMENT "A" to S.P. 247, L.D. 644

2 child. Assistance may be provided for a period of time based on  
3 the special needs of the child.

4 **Sec. 2. Appropriation.** The following funds are appropriated  
5 from the General Fund to carry out the purposes of this Act.

6 1995-96 1996-97

8 **HUMAN SERVICES, DEPARTMENT OF**

10 **Aid to Families with Dependent**  
12 **Children - Foster Care**

14 All Other \$15,221 \$30,442

16 Provides funds for the  
18 increased state share of  
20 Adoption Assistance Program  
costs.

22 **Child Welfare Services**

24 All Other 10,368 20,736

26 Provides funds for the  
28 Adoption Assistance Program.

30 **Purchased Social Services**

32 All Other (25,589) (46,619)

34 Deappropriates funds as a  
36 result of a reduction in  
38 funding for family outreach  
40 counseling in fiscal year  
42 1995-96 and the elimination  
of funding for family  
44 outreach counseling in fiscal  
year 1996-97 in order to  
provide funds for the  
46 Adoption Assistance Program.

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**Social Services - Regional**

2 All Other (4,559)

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6 Deappropriates funds due to a  
8 reduction in general  
operating expenses in order  
10 to provide funds for the  
Adoption Assistance Program.

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16 **DEPARTMENT OF HUMAN SERVICES**  
**TOTAL** -\$0- -\$0-

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20 **Sec. 3. Allocation.** The following funds are allocated from the  
Federal Expenditure Fund to carry out the purposes of this Act.

22 **1995-96 1996-97**

24 **HUMAN SERVICES, DEPARTMENT OF**

26 **Aid to Families with Dependent  
Children - Foster Care**

28 All Other \$26,251 \$52,502

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32 Allocates funds representing  
34 the federal share of the  
increased funding for the  
Adoption Assistance Program.'

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38 Further amend the bill by inserting at the end before the  
statement of fact the following:

40 **FISCAL NOTE**

42 **1995-96 1996-97**

44 **APPROPRIATIONS/ALLOCATIONS**

46 Other Funds \$26,251 \$52,502

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50 **REVENUES**

Other Funds \$26,251 \$52,502

P. of S.

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This bill includes General Fund appropriations of \$25,589 and \$51,178 and Federal Expenditure Fund allocations of \$26,251 and \$52,502 in fiscal years 1995-96 and 1996-97, respectively, for the Department of Human Services to expand the Adoption Assistance Program.

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This bill also includes total General Fund deappropriations of \$25,589 and \$51,178 in fiscal years 1995-96 and 1996-97, respectively, from the Department of Human Services as a result of reductions in funding to family outreach counseling in fiscal year 1995-96 and a reduction in regional general operating expenses along with the elimination of funding for family outreach counseling in fiscal year 1996-97, in order to offset the General Fund cost of the Adoption Assistance Program.'

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**STATEMENT OF FACT**

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This amendment rewrites the bill for purposes of clarity. It makes no substantive changes. It adds a fiscal note.