

MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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L.D. 1496

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DATE: June 27, 1995 (Filing No. S- 348)

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

SENATE AMENDMENT " B " to COMMITTEE AMENDMENT "A" to S.P. 548, L.D. 1496, Bill, "An Act to Improve the AFDC Program"

Amend the amendment by inserting at the end before the statement of fact the following:

PART D

Sec. 1. Commission established. The Commission on the Economic Impact of Time-limited Aid to Families with Dependent Children Benefits, referred to in this Part as the "commission," is established.

Sec. 2. Commission membership. The commission consists of 9 members as follows:

1. Five members appointed by the Governor. The Governor shall appoint one member from this group to serve as chair of the commission;

2. Two members appointed by the President of the Senate; and

3. Two members appointed by the Speaker of the House of Representatives.

Appointments must be made within 30 days of the effective date of this Part.

SENATE AMENDMENT

R & S.

SENATE AMENDMENT "B" to COMMITTEE AMENDMENT "A" to S.P. 548,
L.D. 1496

2 **Sec. 3. Duties.** The chair of the commission shall convene the
3 first meeting no later than December 1, 1995. The commission
4 shall study all issues related to Aid to Families with Dependent
5 Children time limits in the State, including, but not limited to:

6 1. Evaluation of other states' waivers and program design
7 on time-limited benefits and the impacts on the Aid to Families
8 with Dependent Children population, other public and private
9 systems, the labor market and the states' economies;

10 2. Analysis of the Aid to Families with Dependent Children
11 caseload in the State, by time, deprivation reasons and the
12 issues that increase reliance on Aid to Families with Dependent
13 Children benefits such as, but not limited to, vocational
14 dysfunction, labor market declines, health care systems, economic
15 support networks such as unemployment compensation, child support
16 enforcement, housing subsidy and workers' compensation; and

17 3. Research the impact on the State's economy if Aid to
18 Families with Dependent Children benefits were time-limited.
19

20
21 **Sec. 4. Freedom of access; confidential information.** Meetings of
22 the commission are public meetings and records and papers of the
23 commission are public records for the purposes of the freedom of
24 access laws, pursuant to the Maine Revised Statutes, Title 1,
25 chapter 13, subchapter I; except that information obtained about
26 individual Aid to Families with Dependent Children cases will
27 remain confidential in accordance with rules of the Department of
28 Human Services.
29

30 **Sec. 5. Staffing.** The Department of Human Services shall
31 provide staffing and may, within existing resources, obtain
32 technical assistance by organizations with expertise in
33 economics, business, job creation and welfare-to-work programs.
34

35 **Sec. 6. Compensation; reimbursement.** The members of the
36 commission are not entitled to compensation or reimbursement for
37 expenses related to attendance at meetings of the commission.
38

39 **Sec. 7. Report.** The commission shall submit its report and
40 recommendations regarding time-limited Aid to Families with
41 Dependent Children benefits to the joint standing committee of
42 the Legislature having jurisdiction over human resources matters
43 no later than February 1, 1996. The committee may submit
44 legislation relating to the report to the Second Regular Session
45 of the 117th Legislature.
46

48 **FISCAL NOTE**

SENATE AMENDMENT

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The amendment establishes the Commission on the Economic Impact of Time-limited AFDC Benefits.

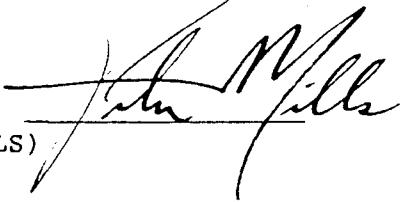
The additional costs to print the report of the commission can be absorbed by the Legislature utilizing existing budgeted resources.

The additional costs to provide staffing assistance to the commission can be absorbed by the Department of Human Services utilizing existing budgeted resources.

STATEMENT OF FACT

This amendment establishes the Commission on the Economic Impact of Time-limited Aid to Families with Dependent Children Benefits to study issues related to establishing time limits and requires the commission to report to the Joint Standing Committee on Human Resources by February 1, 1996.

SPONSORED BY:
(Senator MILLS)



COUNTY: Somerset