

MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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DATE: 3-20-98

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STATE OF MAINE
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
118TH LEGISLATURE
SECOND REGULAR SESSION

HOUSE AMENDMENT "A" to COMMITTEE AMENDMENT "A" to H.P. 297, L.D. 361, Bill, "An Act to Encourage Regionalization of Municipal Services"

Amend the amendment by striking out everything after the title and before the summary and inserting in its place the following:

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

'Sec. 1. Demonstration project. The State Planning Office shall establish and maintain, as a one-year demonstration project, a grant program to enable municipalities to study and develop programs to deliver municipal services on a regional basis when such regionalization is likely to result in improved or more efficient services.

1. Application for the grant must be made by 2 or more municipalities, one of which must be a service center community as designated by the office in its 1996 report entitled "The Costs and Impacts of Development Patterns in Maine."

2. Application must be made on forms developed by the office and must include at least the following information: the service being considered for regionalization; a summary of how regionalization is expected to improve efficiency or improve the service; and information necessary to demonstrate that improvement is likely.

HOUSE AMENDMENT

3. Municipalities approved for grants shall fund at least 20% of the cost of the program to which the grant will be applied.

4. In awarding grants, the office shall seek to coordinate grants under this program with other grant and assistance programs offered by the office and shall give priority to communities designated as principal service center communities.

Sec. 2. Report. The State Planning Office shall submit a report to the joint standing committee of the Legislature having jurisdiction over state and local government matters no later than December 1, 1999 regarding the demonstration project conducted pursuant to section 1. The State Planning Office may include, as part of its report, proposed implementing legislation. The committee may report out legislation based on those recommendations.

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

1998-99

EXECUTIVE DEPARTMENT

State Planning Office

All Other		\$100,000
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Provides one-time funds to provide grants to certain municipalities as a demonstration project.' '

FISCAL NOTE

This amendment reduces the General Fund appropriations required beginning in fiscal year 1999-2000 by limiting the grant program to a one-year demonstration project.

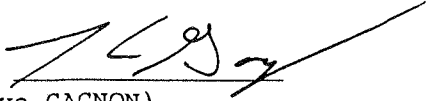
SUMMARY

This amendment strikes the bill, as amended by the committee amendment, and instead directs the State Planning Office to establish as a one-year demonstration project a grant program to assist municipalities in planning for regional service delivery to improve the quality or efficiency of municipal services. The

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361

bill requires the State Planning Office to report back to the
joint standing committee of the Legislature having jurisdiction
over state and local government matters regarding the
demonstration project no later than December 1, 1999.

SPONSORED BY: 
(Representative GAGNON)

TOWN: Waterville

HOUSE AMENDMENT