

MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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119th MAINE LEGISLATURE

FIRST REGULAR SESSION-1999

Legislative Document

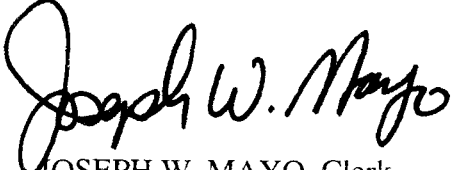
No. 1372

H.P. 974

House of Representatives, February 18, 1999

An Act to Give a Caretaker the Same Temporary Assistance for Needy Families as a Custodial Parent.

Reference to the Committee on Health and Human Services suggested and ordered printed.


JOSEPH W. MAYO, Clerk

Presented by Representative MENDROS of Lewiston.
Cosponsored by Senator DOUGLASS of Androscoggin and
Representatives: BROOKS of Winterport, CLOUGH of Scarborough, DESMOND of
Mapleton, FOSTER of Gray, MacDOUGALL of North Berwick, SNOWE-MELLO of
Poland, TRIPP of Topsham, Senator: PARADIS of Aroostook.

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

4 **Sec. 1. 22 MRSA §3762, sub-§1, ¶A-1 is enacted to read:**

6 A-1. "Caretaker" means any individual who has or assumes
8 the responsibility for the care of a child. "Caretaker"
does not include an institution that has or assumes the
responsibility for the care of a child.

10 **Sec. 2. 22 MRSA §3763, sub-§11 is enacted to read:**

12 11. Caretaker who is not parent. If a caretaker is not a
14 parent to the child and is eligible for TANF benefits for
assuming responsibility for the child, the department shall
16 provide assistance to the caretaker equal to the amount the
department provides if the caretaker is a custodial parent.

18 **SUMMARY**

20 This bill requires the Department of Human Services to allow
22 an individual caretaker that is not the parent of a child and is
24 eligible for TANF benefits for assuming responsibility for a
26 child to receive the same amount of assistance as the department
would provide a custodial parent. A caretaker is an individual
that has or assumes responsibility for the care of a child.