

2	L.D. 224
	DATE: May 16, 2001 (Filing No. 5-209)
4	5
б	APPROPRIATIONS AND FINANCIAL AFFAIRS
8	Reported by:
10	Reproduced and distributed under the direction of the Secretary of the Senate.
12	STATE OF MAINE
14	STATE OF MAINE SENATE 120TH LEGISLATURE
16	FIRST REGULAR SESSION
18	COMMITTEE AMENDMENT " A " to S.P. 60, L.D. 224, Bill, "An Act
20	to Reinstate Emergency Assistance for Dependents of Veterans"
22	Amend the bill by striking out the title and substituting the following:
24	'An Act to Reinstate Emergency Assistance for Veterans'
26	
28	Further amend the bill by striking out everything after the enacting clause and before the summary and inserting in its place the following:
30	
32	' Sec. 1. 37-B MRSA §505, sub-§1, as amended by PL 1997, c. 455, §25, is repealed.
34	Sec. 2. 37-B MRSA §505, sub-§1-A is enacted to read:
36	1-A. Financial assistance. Financial assistance may be granted as follows.
38	
40	A. The bureau may provide a grant of temporary assistance not to exceed \$200 per month and not to exceed \$600 in any 12-month period to a veteran in this State who has filed a
42	valid claim for a veteran's pension, pending notification of the award of such a pension, if that veteran is not

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	incarcerated and requests such assistance. For purposes of
2	this paragraph, "claim for a veteran's pension" means a
_	claim filed with the federal Veterans' Administration
4	pursuant to 38 United States Code, Chapter 15.
б	B. The bureau may provide a grant of emergency assistance
Ŭ	not to exceed \$500 to a veteran who suffers an emergency.
8	such as the loss of that veteran's home to fire, flood or
	hurricane, that is not fully compensable by insurance;
10	illness or the illness of an immediate family member; or a
	<u>similar emergency. No more than \$1,000 in emergency</u>
12	<u>assistance may be provided to a veteran in any 12-month</u>
7.4	period. For the purposes of this paragraph, "veteran" has
14	the same meaning as "eligible veteran" in section 504,
16	subsection 4, paragraph A-1.
10	C. A veteran who requests either temporary assistance under
18	paragraph A or emergency assistance under paragraph B and is
	denied such assistance may request a reconsideration and
20	review of this decision by the director. The decision of
	the director is final and may not be appealed to a court.
22	
	D. The department may adopt rules to implement this
24	subsection. Rules adopted pursuant to this paragraph are
26	<u>major substantive rules as defined in Title 5, chapter 375, subchapter II-A.</u>
20	<u>Subchapter 11-A.</u>
28	Sec. 3. Appropriation. The following funds are appropriated
	from the General Fund to carry out the purposes of this Act.
30	
22	2001-02 2002-03
32	DEFENCE VETEDANC AND
34	DEFENSE, VETERANS AND EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT,
54	DEPARTMENT OF
36	
	Bureau of Veterans Services
38	
	Positions (1.000) (1.000)
40	Personal Services \$28,017 \$39,582
4.2	All Other 206,447 202,947
42	Provides funds for one
44	Accountant I position, a
· ·	computer and general
46	operating costs to administer
	this program. This
48	appropriation also includes

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COMMITTEE AMENDMENT "A" to S.P. 60, L.D. 224 \$200,000 in fiscal year 2001-02 and \$200,000 in 2 fiscal year 2002-03 to 4 provide aid to veterans. 6 **DEPARTMENT OF DEFENSE. VETERANS** AND EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT 8 TOTAL \$234,464 \$242,529' Further amend the bill by inserting at the end before the 10 summary the following: 12 'FISCAL NOTE 14 16 2001-02 2002-03 **APPROPRIATIONS/ALLOCATIONS** 18 20 \$234,464 \$242,529 General Fund 22 The bill includes General Fund appropriations to the Bureau 24 of Veterans Services within the Department of Defense, Veterans and Emergency Management totalling \$234,464 and \$242,529 in fiscal years 2001-02 and 2002-03, respectively. This includes 26 General Fund appropriations of \$200,000 in fiscal year 2001-02 28 and \$200,000 in fiscal year 2002-03 to provide aid to veterans. It also includes General Fund appropriations of \$34,464 and \$42,529 in fiscal years 2001-02 and 2002-03, respectively, for 30 one Accountant I position and related operating costs associated with administering the program.' 32 34 **SUMMARY** 36 amendment repeals the existing statute regarding This 38 financial assistance to veterans and their dependents and replaces it with new language that expands the eligibility 40 criteria and streamlines the benefit payment process. 42 This amendment also provides funds for an Accountant I position to administer the program and adds the required fiscal 44 note.

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