

MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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120th MAINE LEGISLATURE

FIRST REGULAR SESSION-2001

Legislative Document

No. 1109

H.P. 837

House of Representatives, February 22, 2001

**An Act to Clarify Conditions of Eligibility for Property Tax Exemptions
for Benevolent and Charitable Institutions.**

Reference to the Committee on Taxation suggested and ordered printed.

Millicent M. MacFarland

MILLICENT M. MacFARLAND, Clerk

Presented by Representative GLYNN of South Portland.

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

4 **Sec. 1. 36 MRSA §652, sub-§1, ¶C,** as amended by PL 1997, c.
442, §3, is further amended by amending subparagraph (1) to read:

6 (1) Any corporation claiming exemption under paragraph
8 A must be organized and conducted exclusively for
benevolent and charitable purposes. For purposes of
10 this subparagraph, "benevolent and charitable purposes"
means that the corporation:

12 (a) Provides a significant portion of its
14 services to a substantial class of persons who are
the legitimate recipients of charity; or

16 (b) Otherwise relieves the government of its
18 burden to care for or advance the interests of its
citizens;

20 **Sec. 2. Guidelines.** By January 1, 2002, the Department of
Administrative and Financial Services, Bureau of Revenue Services
22 shall prepare guidelines to assist municipal assessors in
determining whether corporations qualify for property tax
24 exemption as benevolent and charitable institutions under the
standards provided in this Act. The bureau shall provide copies
26 of the guidelines to municipal assessors in each municipality and
to the Joint Standing Committee on Taxation.

28
30 **SUMMARY**

32 This bill establishes standards of eligibility for property
tax exemption for a benevolent and charitable institution. The
34 bill also requires the Department of Administrative and Financial
Services, Bureau of Revenue Services to prepare guidelines to
36 assist municipal assessors in determining eligibility for
exemption as a benevolent and charitable institution.