

MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES

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STATE OF MAINE
SENATE
120TH LEGISLATURE
FIRST REGULAR SESSION

COMMITTEE AMENDMENT "A" to S.P. 371, L.D. 1209, Bill, "An Act to Assist Families in Meeting their Basic Needs"

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

Sec. 1. 22 MRSA §3769-C, sub-§1, ¶¶A and B are enacted to read:

A. Beginning July 1, 2001, the department shall use unexpended funds in the TANF program to increase the maximum amount of TANF assistance by an amount equal to 5% of the maximum payments that were in effect on January 1, 2001 and shall increase the standard of need to maintain the same differential between the maximum payment and the standard of need that was in effect on January 1, 2001. Initial applicants for assistance do not become eligible for assistance as a result of any increase in the standard of need required by this paragraph.

B. Beginning with the 2004-2005 biennium, the commissioner must continue the 5% benefit increase provided for in paragraph A in the department's current services budget request for the TANF block grant.

Sec. 2. TANF Reserve. The Department of Human Services shall allocate \$1,377,295 in each of fiscal years 2001-02 and 2002-03 from the TANF Reserve to the Temporary Assistance for Needy Families program to provide a 5% increase in the maximum

level of assistance in the TANF program pursuant to the Maine Revised Statutes, Title 22, section 3769-C, subsection 1, paragraph A.

Sec. 3. Allocation. The following funds are allocated from Federal Block Grant funds to carry out the purposes of this Act.

	2001-02	2002-03
HUMAN SERVICES, DEPARTMENT OF		
Temporary Assistance for Needy Families		
All Other	\$1,377,295	\$1,377,295
Provides funds from the TANF Reserve to support a 5% increase in the maximum level of assistance in the TANF program.		
Temporary Assistance for Needy Families		
All Other	\$1,000,000	\$1,000,000
Provides funds to support a 5% increase in the maximum level of assistance in the TANF program.		
Temporary Assistance for Needy Families		
All Other	(\$1,000,000)	(\$1,000,000)
Deallocates funds to offset an excess allocation in Part A of the Governor's "current services" budget.		
DEPARTMENT OF HUMAN SERVICES		
TOTAL	\$1,377,295	\$1,377,295

Further amend the bill by inserting at the end before the summary the following:

FISCAL NOTE

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2001-02

2002-03

4

APPROPRIATIONS/ALLOCATIONS

6

Other Funds \$1,377,295 \$1,377,295

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10 This bill includes net Federal Block Grant allocations
12 totalling \$1,377,295 and \$1,377,295 in fiscal years 2001-02 and
14 2002-03, respectively, to the Temporary Assistance for Needy
16 Families program within the Department of Human Services, as a
18 result of offsetting allocations and deallocations and from a
20 transfer from the TANF Reserve, to provide a 5% increase in the
maximum level of assistance in the TANF program. Beginning with
the 2004-2005 biennium, this bill requires the Department of
Human Services to include funding for the 5% benefit increase
within its current services budget request. Funding for this
benefit increase in the 2004-2005 biennium is expected to be
available due to further declines in caseload.

22 This bill also includes offsetting allocations and
24 deallocations of \$1,000,000 annually to reflect the requirement
26 that the Department of Human Services utilize unexpended TANF
Block Grant funds to support a portion of the 5% increase in the
maximum level of assistance.

28 The Governor's "current services" budget, L.D. 300, also
30 utilized the excess allocation in the TANF Block Grant and the
32 TANF Reserve to fund child care services. Committee Amendment
"A" to L.D. 300 does not utilize the TANF Reserve or the excess
allocation in the TANF Block Grant.'

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SUMMARY

38 This amendment replaces the bill. It provides Federal Block
40 Grant Fund allocations to the Temporary Assistance for Needy
42 Families program within the Department of Human Services totaling
\$2,377,295 and \$2,377,295 in fiscal years 2001-02 and 2002-03,
44 respectively, to provide a 5% increase in the maximum level of
assistance in the TANF program.

46 Beginning with the 2004-2005 biennium, the Department of
Human Services must include funding for the 5% benefit increase
48 within its current services budget request.

50 This amendment adds an allocation section to fund the TANF
increase and a fiscal note to the bill.