

# MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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# 120th MAINE LEGISLATURE

## FIRST REGULAR SESSION-2001

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Legislative Document

No. 1624

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H.P. 1202

House of Representatives, March 13, 2001

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**An Act Concerning the Payment of Child Support.**

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

*Millicent M. MacFarland*

MILLICENT M. MacFARLAND, Clerk

Presented by Representative HAWES of Standish.  
Cosponsored by Senator O'GARA of Cumberland and  
Representatives: BLISS of South Portland, JONES of Greenville, MICHAUD of Fort Kent,  
SIMPSON of Auburn, Senators: CATHCART of Penobscot, KNEELAND of Aroostook,  
McALEVEY of York.

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

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4       **Sec. 1. 19-A MRSA §2154, sub-§1, ¶¶A and B**, as enacted by PL 1995, c. 694, Pt. B, §2 and affected by Pt. E, §2, are amended to read:

6           A. Hiring of a person who resides or works in this State to whom the employer anticipates paying earnings; and

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10          B. Rehiring or return to work of an employee who was laid off, furloughed, separated, granted a leave without pay or terminated from employment; and

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14       **Sec. 2. 19-A MRSA §2154, sub-§1, ¶C** is enacted to read:

16           C. The contracting for services, other than casual labor, in this State with an individual, in accordance with the rules adopted by the commissioner, when reimbursement for such services is anticipated to exceed \$2,500.

20       **Sec. 3. 19-A MRSA §2154, sub-§4**, as enacted by PL 1995, c. 694, Pt. B, §2 and affected by Pt. E, §2, is amended to read:

22           **4. Report.** An employer shall submit a report within 7 days of the contracting for services, hiring, rehiring or return to work of the employee. The report must contain:

24           A. The employee's name, address, social security number and date of birth; and

26           B. The employer's name, address and employment security reference number or unified business identifier number.

28       **Sec. 4. 22 MRSA §3769-C, sub-§3** is enacted to read:

30           **3. Increased assistance levels.** Support assigned to the department pursuant to Title 19-A, section 2369 and debts due the department for public assistance pursuant to Title 19-A, section 2301 that are collected by the department, that are not owed to another person or governmental entity and that are in excess of \$7,406,560 must be used to increase the maximum payment levels in TANF and the Parents as Scholars Program, established in section 3790, by no more than 5% each year until the maximum cash assistance for a family of 3 reaches at least the average maximum payment for a family of 3 in the other New England states and the cash assistance levels for larger and smaller families are increased proportionately. The differential between the maximum level and the standard of need remains the same as it was on January 1, 2001.

## SUMMARY

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This bill provides an additional child support collection  
4 tool for the Department of Human Services. It requires that  
employers who hire persons on a contract basis for \$2,500 or more  
6 report the names, addresses and social security numbers to the  
Department of Human Services.

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In addition, the bill requires that increases in collections  
10 of debt owed the department and not owed to anyone else over  
\$7,406,560 must be used to increase TANF and Parents as Scholars  
12 Program cash assistance levels until Maine's maximum level for a  
family of 3 reaches the New England average.