MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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121st MAINE LEGISLATURE

FIRST REGULAR SESSION-2003

Legislative Document

No. 465

H.P. 357

House of Representatives, February 4, 2003

An Act To Make Transportation More Affordable for Low-income Families

Reference to the Committee on State and Local Government suggested and ordered printed.

Millicent M. MacFarland
MILLICENT M. MacFARLAND
Clerk

Presented by Representative McGLOCKLIN of Embden.

Cosponsored by Representatives: ADAMS of Portland, DAIGLE of Arundel, DUGAY of Cherryfield, KANE of Saco, MILLS of Cornville, TWOMEY of Biddeford, WALCOTT of Lewiston, Senator: SAVAGE of Knox.

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

Sec. 1. 5 MRSA §1813, sub-§6, as amended by PL 2001, c. 529, §1, is further amended to read:

Surplus property. Providing for transfer of supplies, materials and equipment that are surplus from one state department or agency to another that may need them, and for the disposal by private and public sale of supplies, materials and equipment that obsolete unusable. are and Political subdivisions, educational institutions, fire departments qualifying nonprofit organizations, as defined in section 1813-A, must be given an opportunity to purchase the surplus items through private sale. If 2 or more political subdivisions, educational institutions, fire departments or qualifying nonprofit organizations are interested in any item, the sale must be the result of competitive bid. Any equipment so purchased must be retained for a period of at least one year in a current ongoing program. Any item purchased by a political subdivision, educational institution, fire department or qualifying nonprofit organization under this section may not be sold or transferred by that political subdivision, educational institution, department or qualifying nonprofit organization for a period of 6 months from the date of the private sale and-the , except that a qualifying nonprofit organization that contracts with the Department of Human Services to provide vehicles to low-income families may resell a vehicle purchased in the private sale to a low-income family to assist it in participating in work, education or training pursuant to the qualifying nonprofit organization's contract with the Department of Human Services. The State reserves the right to refuse to sell additional equipment to a political subdivision, educational institution, fire department or qualifying nonprofit organization if it is subdivision, determined that the political educational institution, fire department or qualifying nonprofit organization has not retained the equipment for the required period of 6 months:

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Sec. 2. 5 MRSA $\S1813$ -A, sub- $\S1$, \P C, as enacted by PL 1991, c. 418, $\S3$, is amended to read:

C. "Qualifying nonprofit organization" means a public or private nonprofit entity that owns or operates a project or facility for the homeless ef; a nonprofit organization that has been determined to be exempt from taxation under the United States Internal Revenue Code, Section 501 (c) and that provides services to persons with physical or mental handicaps as defined in section 4553, subsection 7-A; or a nonprofit organization that has been determined to be exempt from taxation under the United States Internal Revenue Code, Section 501(c) and that contracts with the Department of

Human Services to provide vehicles to low-income families to assist them in participating in work, education or training.

Sec. 3. 5 MRSA §1813-A, sub-§2, as corrected by RR 2001, c. 2, Pt. A, §7, is amended to read:

2. Surplus property. Pursuant to this chapter and rules adopted under section 1813, the Department of Administrative and Financial Services through the Bureau of General Services shall allow private sales of surplus property to nonprofit organizations that contract with the Department of Human Services to provide affordable vehicles to low-income families to assist them in participating in work, education or training; to homeless shelter sponsors; and to educational institutions.

SUMMARY

This bill allows nonprofit organizations that contract with the Department of Human Services to help make transportation available to low-income families who need transportation for work, education or training to participate in the private purchase of surplus state vehicles. The purpose of the bill is to help participating nonprofits make vehicles more affordable for families.