MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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124th MAINE LEGISLATURE

FIRST REGULAR SESSION-2009

Legislative Document

No. 753

H.P. 512

House of Representatives, February 26, 2009

Resolve, To Require the Department of Health and Human Services To Request a Waiver To Prohibit the Use of Food Stamps for the Purchase of Taxable Food Items

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

Millicent M. MacFarland MILLICENT M. MacFARLAND Clerk

Presented by Representative BICKFORD of Auburn.
Cosponsored by Representative DOSTIE of Sabattus, Senator MILLS of Somerset and
Representatives: BEAUDOIN of Biddeford, BEAULIEU of Auburn, FOSSEL of Alna,
LAJOIE of Lewiston, MARTIN of Orono, NASS of Acton, PENDLETON of Scarborough,
WAGNER of Lewiston.

Sec. 1. Waiver to prohibit use of benefits for the purchase of taxable food
items. Resolved: That the Department of Health and Human Services shall request a
waiver from the United States Department of Agriculture to permit the State to prohibit
the use of benefits under the federal Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program for the
purchase of food items that are subject to the state sales tax. The department shall reques
the waiver no later than October 1, 2009; and be it further
Sec. 2. Rulemaking; notice. Resolved: That, within 30 days of the grant of the
waiver by the United States Department of Agriculture under section 1, the Departmen

Sec. 2. Rulemaking; notice. Resolved: That, within 30 days of the grant of the waiver by the United States Department of Agriculture under section 1, the Department of Health and Human Services shall amend its rules to prohibit the use of federal Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program benefits for the purchase of food items that are subject to the state sales tax. The department shall inform retailers in the State participating in the statewide food stamp program pursuant to the Maine Revised Statutes, Title 22, section 3104 of the rule change. Rules adopted pursuant to this section are routine technical rules as defined in Title 5, chapter 375, subchapter 2-A.

SUMMARY

This resolve requires the Department of Health and Human Services to request a waiver from the United States Department of Agriculture to allow Maine to prohibit the use of Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program benefits for the purchase of food items that are subject to the state sales tax.