

MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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126th MAINE LEGISLATURE

FIRST REGULAR SESSION-2013

Legislative Document

No. 1036

H.P. 731

House of Representatives, March 14, 2013

An Act To Amend the Social Work Education Loan Repayment Program

Reference to the Committee on Education and Cultural Affairs suggested and ordered printed.

Millicent M. MacFarland
MILLICENT M. MacFARLAND
Clerk

Presented by Representative NELSON of Falmouth.
Cosponsored by Senator CRAVEN of Androscoggin and
Representatives: FARNSWORTH of Portland, MAKER of Calais, PRINGLE of Windham,
SANBORN of Gorham, STUCKEY of Portland, Senators: President ALFOND of Cumberland,
HASKELL of Cumberland.

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

2 **Sec. 1. 10 MRSA §1038, sub-§5**, as enacted by PL 2009, c. 427, §1, is amended
3 to read:

4 **5. Administration.** The program and the fund are administered by the authority.
5 The authority shall repay the loans, either through loan repayments to the lender or debt
6 relief directly to the applicant, of up to ~~3~~ 40 applicants each year who meet the criteria in
7 subsection 3 in the amount of up to ~~\$5,000~~ \$1,000 for each applicant. The authority may
8 adopt rules to carry out the purposes of this subchapter. Rules adopted pursuant to this
9 subsection are routine technical rules pursuant to Title 5, chapter 375, subchapter 2-A.

10 **Sec. 2. Appropriations and allocations.** The following appropriations and
11 allocations are made.

12 **FINANCE AUTHORITY OF MAINE**

13 Initiative: Appropriates ongoing funds for the Social Work Education Loan Repayment
14 Program.

15			
16	GENERAL FUND	2013-14	2014-15
17	All Other	\$20,000	\$20,000
18			
19	GENERAL FUND TOTAL	\$20,000	\$20,000

20 **SUMMARY**

21 This bill amends the Social Work Education Loan Repayment Program to allow the
22 Finance Authority of Maine to provide debt relief directly to the applicant or to make
23 loan repayments to the lender. This bill also increases the number of applicants who may
24 be eligible for loan relief from 3 applicants to 40 applicants per year, decreases the
25 maximum amount of debt relief to \$1,000 and provides an ongoing appropriation of
26 \$20,000 per year.