

MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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Date: 6/17/19

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STATE OF MAINE
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
129TH LEGISLATURE
FIRST REGULAR SESSION

HOUSE AMENDMENT "A" to COMMITTEE AMENDMENT "A" to H.P. 952,
L.D. 1317, Bill, "An Act To Restore Services To Help Certain Noncitizens Meet Their
Basic Needs"

Amend the amendment by striking out all of the first paragraph after the title (page 1,
line 11 in amendment)

Amend the amendment by striking out all of section 5 and inserting the following:

'Amend the bill by striking out the title and substituting the following:

**'Resolve, Directing the Department of Health and Human Services To Implement
Administrative Changes To Ensure, Within Existing Law and Resources, Access to
Assistance by Certain Noncitizens'**

Amend the bill by striking out everything after the title and inserting the following:

Sec. 1. Access to assistance by certain noncitizens. Resolved: That, in
accordance with existing law and within available resources, the Department of Health
and Human Services shall take steps to ensure the ability to meet basic needs, including
housing and food, for any person who is:

1. Lawfully present in the United States with the knowledge and permission of the
United States Department of Homeland Security and whose departure is not required by
the United States Department of Homeland Security, including a person described in 45
Code of Federal Regulations, Section 152.2, Subsections (1) to (7) or a person with
deferred action under the United States Department of Homeland Security's deferred
action for childhood arrivals process; or

2. Pursuing a lawful process to apply for immigration relief under the federal
Immigration and Nationality Act, as long as the person has submitted to the federal
government an application for immigration relief or can provide verification that the
person is taking reasonable steps to pursue the application process.

The Department of Health and Human Services shall implement administrative rule
changes, consistent with current law and to be funded within existing resources as soon as
those resources are available or anticipated but no later than November 1, 2019, to ensure
that persons described in subsections 1 and 2 who are otherwise eligible are able to access
general assistance to the extent allowable pursuant to the Maine Revised Statutes, Title

HOUSE AMENDMENT

1 22, section 4301, subsection 3; food supplement program benefits in accordance with
2 Title 22, section 3104; and temporary assistance for needy families in accordance with
3 Title 22, section 3762, subsection 3.

4 The department shall adopt emergency rules under Title 5, section 8054 to implement
5 this section. Rules adopted pursuant to this section are routine technical rules as defined
6 by Title 5, chapter 375, subchapter 2-A.

7 **Sec. 2. Study of cost, consequences for noncitizens without health**
8 **insurance; stakeholder involvement; report. Resolved:** That the Department of
9 Health and Human Services shall study relevant federal, state and municipal data to
10 determine the costs, including the costs of providing uncompensated care, and the short-
11 term and long-term health consequences of noncitizens' not having health insurance. In
12 conducting its review, the department shall consult with health care providers, hospitals,
13 municipalities, social service organizations, organizations with expertise in workforce
14 development and organizations representing noncitizens.

15 No later than February 1, 2020, the department shall submit its report and any
16 recommendations developed pursuant to this section, including any suggested legislation,
17 to the Joint Standing Committee on Health and Human Services. After receipt and review
18 of the report, the committee may report out a bill to the Second Regular Session of the
19 129th Legislature.'

20 **SUMMARY**

21 This amendment strikes the appropriations and allocations section in Committee
22 Amendment "A" and instead replaces the bill with a resolve directing the Department of
23 Health and Human Services to implement administrative changes in compliance with
24 state law to ensure that, within existing resources, certain noncitizens are able to access
25 certain assistance. This amendment also directs the Department of Health and Human
26 Services to study the cost and health consequences of noncitizens' not having health
27 insurance and make recommendations to the Joint Standing Committee on Health and
28 Human Services no later than February 1, 2020.

29 **SPONSORED BY:** 

30 (Representative GATTINE)

31 **TOWN: Westbrook**

FISCAL NOTE REQUIRED
(See attached)



129th MAINE LEGISLATURE

LD 1317

LR 1666(04)

An Act To Restore Services To Help Certain Noncitizens Meet Their Basic Needs

Fiscal Note for House Amendment "A" to Committee Amendment "A"
Sponsor: Rep. Gattine of Westbrook
Fiscal Note Required: Yes

Fiscal Note

Removes appropriations - General Fund
Eliminates certain requirements, limits eligibility - Reduces costs

	FY 2019-20	FY 2020-21	Projections FY 2021-22	Projections FY 2022-23
Net Cost (Savings)				
General Fund	(\$7,327,767)	(\$7,125,033)	(\$7,125,033)	(\$7,125,033)
Appropriations/Allocations				
General Fund	(\$7,327,767)	(\$7,125,033)	(\$7,125,033)	(\$7,125,033)

Fiscal Detail and Notes

This amendment eliminates the General Fund appropriations that were in the bill. It also eliminates the bill's expansion of eligibility for certain programs within the Department of Health and Human Services (DHHS). The DHHS is directed to implement administrative changes in compliance with current state law to ensure that, within existing resources, certain noncitizens are able to access certain assistance. Without additional funding, the impact of these new provisions on other programs and services in the DHHS cannot be determined at this time.

This amendment also requires the DHHS to study the cost and health consequences for non-citizens without health insurance. Any additional costs to the DHHS to conduct this study and report to the legislature are expected to be minor and can be absorbed within existing budgeted resources.