

# MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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8ME  
P. of S.

L.D. 1774

Date: 6/14/19

(Filing No. H-605)

**HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES**

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

COMMITTEE AMENDMENT "A" to H.P. 1261, L.D. 1774, Bill, "An Act To Reduce Child Poverty by Leveraging Investments so Families Can Thrive"

Amend the bill in section 1 in §3109 in the first paragraph by striking out all of the last sentence (page 1, lines 9 to 11 in L.D.)

Amend the bill in section 1 in §3109 in subsection 2 by striking out all of the first 6 lines (page 1, lines 21 to 26 in L.D.) and inserting the following:

**'2. Identify measures of child and family economic security. Beginning October 15, 2019 and annually thereafter, the department shall obtain and compile the following data for the State regarding child and family economic security from those sources reasonably available to the department, including, but not limited to, data collected and maintained by the department, data available from the Department of Labor and the Department of Administrative and Financial Services, Bureau of Revenue Services or other state or federal agencies and such other data as can reasonably be obtained from other public or private sources upon request. The data must include:'**

Amend the bill in section 1 in §3109 in subsection 2 in paragraph D by inserting after subparagraph (1) the following:

'(2) The number and percentage of families with quarterly earnings from unsubsidized employment that are below 50% of the federal poverty level:

(a) At the time participation in the program was terminated;

(b) During the 2nd quarter after participation in the program was terminated;  
and

(c) During the 4th quarter after participation in the program was terminated;'

Amend the bill in section 1 in §3109 in subsection 2 in paragraph D by renumbering the subparagraphs to read numerically.

Amend the bill in section 1 in §3109 in subsection 2 by striking out all of paragraph F (page 3, lines 12 to 16 in L.D.) and inserting the following:

**COMMITTEE AMENDMENT**

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1 'F. The ratio of persons receiving food supplement assistance to the total number of  
2 potentially eligible persons; the ratio of persons 60 years of age or older receiving  
3 food supplement assistance to the total number of potentially eligible persons 60  
4 years of age or older; the ratio of nonelderly persons with a disability receiving food  
5 supplement assistance to the total number of potentially eligible nonelderly persons  
6 with a disability; and the ratio of children under 18 years of age receiving food  
7 supplement assistance to the total number of potentially eligible children under 18  
8 years of age.'

9 Amend the bill in section 1 in §3109 in subsection 2 by striking out all of paragraphs  
10 J and K (page 3, lines 28 to 31 in L.D.) and inserting the following:

11 'J. The average waiting times, by month, for a person calling the department's call  
12 center to speak to a person, not including an interactive voice response system; and

13 K. The number and percentage, by month, of telephone calls to the department's call  
14 center that are terminated by a caller prior to the caller's speaking to a person, not  
15 including an interactive voice response system.'

16 Amend the bill in section 1 in §3109 by striking out all of subsections 3 and 4 and  
17 inserting the following:

18 **'3. Measuring the effect of department initiatives to improve child and family**  
19 **economic security; report.** The department shall examine and use the data related to  
20 program measures compiled pursuant to subsection 2 and consider how department  
21 programming can contribute to improvements in child and family economic security,  
22 including increased ability to meet basic needs, improved educational levels and  
23 increased incomes. Beginning January 15, 2021, and annually thereafter, the department  
24 shall present the data collected pursuant to subsection 2 along with an assessment of how  
25 these measures can be improved through department programming to the joint standing  
26 committee of the Legislature having jurisdiction over health and human services matters  
27 for the committee's review. The department shall also identify any obstacles to  
28 improving the economic security for children, families and individuals and make  
29 recommendations for addressing those obstacles, which may include improved  
30 coordination between agencies of State Government. The committee's review must  
31 include the opportunity for public comment on the department's presentation and the  
32 committee may introduce any legislation that it considers necessary to address barriers  
33 faced by the department in improving economic security for children, families and  
34 individuals in this State.'

35 Amend the bill in section 6 in subsection 3-B in the 6th line from the end (page 11,  
36 line 20 in L.D.) by striking out the following: "\$500,000" and inserting the following:  
37 '\$250,000'

38 Amend the bill by adding after section 8 the following:

39 **'Sec. 9. Appropriations and allocations.** The following appropriations and  
40 allocations are made.

41 **HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES, DEPARTMENT OF**  
42 **Additional Support for People in Retraining and Employment 0146**

COMMITTEE AMENDMENT "A" to H.P. 1261, L.D. 1774

1 Initiative: Provides allocations for expected additional participants in the Additional  
2 Support for People in Retraining and Employment program.

|   |                                       |                    |                    |
|---|---------------------------------------|--------------------|--------------------|
| 3 | <b>FEDERAL BLOCK GRANT FUND</b>       | <b>2019-20</b>     | <b>2020-21</b>     |
| 4 | All Other                             | \$3,010,368        | \$4,013,824        |
| 5 |                                       |                    |                    |
| 6 | <b>FEDERAL BLOCK GRANT FUND TOTAL</b> | <u>\$3,010,368</u> | <u>\$4,013,824</u> |

7 **Temporary Assistance for Needy Families 0138**

8 Initiative: Provides allocations for campus-based student support and navigation.

|    |                                       |                  |                  |
|----|---------------------------------------|------------------|------------------|
| 9  | <b>FEDERAL BLOCK GRANT FUND</b>       | <b>2019-20</b>   | <b>2020-21</b>   |
| 10 | All Other                             | \$187,500        | \$250,000        |
| 11 |                                       |                  |                  |
| 12 | <b>FEDERAL BLOCK GRANT FUND TOTAL</b> | <u>\$187,500</u> | <u>\$250,000</u> |

13 **Temporary Assistance for Needy Families 0138**

14 Initiative: Provides allocations due to the elimination of the gross income test.

|    |                                       |                  |                  |
|----|---------------------------------------|------------------|------------------|
| 15 | <b>FEDERAL BLOCK GRANT FUND</b>       | <b>2019-20</b>   | <b>2020-21</b>   |
| 16 | All Other                             | \$575,060        | \$766,746        |
| 17 |                                       |                  |                  |
| 18 | <b>FEDERAL BLOCK GRANT FUND TOTAL</b> | <u>\$575,060</u> | <u>\$766,746</u> |

19 **HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES,**  
20 **DEPARTMENT OF**  
21 **DEPARTMENT TOTALS**

|  |  |                |                |
|--|--|----------------|----------------|
|  |  | <b>2019-20</b> | <b>2020-21</b> |
|--|--|----------------|----------------|

|    |                                     |                           |                           |
|----|-------------------------------------|---------------------------|---------------------------|
| 23 | <b>FEDERAL BLOCK GRANT FUND</b>     | <b>\$3,772,928</b>        | <b>\$5,030,570</b>        |
| 24 |                                     |                           |                           |
| 25 | <b>DEPARTMENT TOTAL - ALL FUNDS</b> | <u><b>\$3,772,928</b></u> | <u><b>\$5,030,570</b></u> |

27 Amend the bill by relettering or renumbering any nonconsecutive Part letter or  
28 section number to read consecutively.

29 **SUMMARY**

30 This amendment makes the following changes to the bill.

- 31 1. It removes the requirement for the Department of Health and Human Services to  
32 establish annual improvement targets to ensure access to public assistance programs.

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1 2. It clarifies that sources of information to compile data measures of child and  
2 family economic security are not limited to the data sources in the bill and specifies that  
3 data from other state agencies including the Department of Labor and the Department of  
4 Administrative and Financial Services, Bureau of Revenue Services must be compiled.

5 3. It includes a data requirement that includes families earning below 50% of the  
6 federal poverty level at the time participation in the Temporary Assistance for Needy  
7 Families program was terminated and during the 2nd and 4th quarters after participation  
8 was terminated.

9 4. It clarifies the language regarding the ratio of persons receiving food supplement  
10 assistance to those eligible to specify that the ratio applies to the number of persons  
11 overall, the number of persons 60 years of age and older, nonelderly persons with a  
12 disability and children under 18 years of age.

13 5. It specifies that data collected regarding waiting times for calls to Department of  
14 Health and Human Services call centers are to a person and not to an interactive voice  
15 response system.

16 6. It changes the requirements of the Department of Health and Human Services to  
17 measure and report on the effect of departmental initiatives to improve child and family  
18 economic security rather than establishing improvement targets with reporting  
19 requirements.

20 7. It changes the amount of funding for navigators at educational institutions and  
21 programs from \$500,000 to \$250,000.

22 The amendment also adds an appropriations and allocations section.

**FISCAL NOTE REQUIRED**

(See attached)

**COMMITTEE AMENDMENT**



# 129th MAINE LEGISLATURE

LD 1774

LR 35(02)

## An Act To Reduce Child Poverty by Leveraging Investments so Families Can Thrive

Fiscal Note for Bill as Amended by Committee Amendment *A. (H-605)*  
Committee: Health and Human Services

Fiscal Note Required: Yes

### Fiscal Note

|                                   | FY 2019-20  | FY 2020-21  | Projections<br>FY 2021-22 | Projections<br>FY 2022-23 |
|-----------------------------------|-------------|-------------|---------------------------|---------------------------|
| <b>Appropriations/Allocations</b> |             |             |                           |                           |
| Federal Block Grant Fund          | \$3,772,928 | \$5,030,570 | \$5,030,570               | \$5,030,570               |
| <b>Revenue</b>                    |             |             |                           |                           |
| Federal Block Grant Fund          | \$3,772,928 | \$5,030,570 | \$5,030,570               | \$5,030,570               |

### Fiscal Detail and Notes

This bill includes Federal Block Grant Fund allocations to the Department of Health and Human Services of \$3,772,928 in fiscal year 2019-20 and \$5,030,570 in fiscal year 2020-21 for expected additional participants in the Additional Support for People in Retraining and Employment program, the elimination of the gross income test and campus-based student support and navigation.