

MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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Date: 3/25/22

(Filing No. S-461)

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CRIMINAL JUSTICE AND PUBLIC SAFETY

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**STATE OF MAINE
SENATE
130TH LEGISLATURE
SECOND REGULAR SESSION**

COMMITTEE AMENDMENT "A" to S.P. 660, L.D. 1861, "An Act To Establish the Safe Homes Program"

Amend the bill by striking out all of section 2 and inserting the following:

'Sec. 2. 25 MRSA Pt. 15 is enacted to read:

PART 15

SAFE HOMES

CHAPTER 801

SAFE HOMES PROGRAM

§7001. Safe Homes Program

1. Definitions. As used in this section, unless the context otherwise indicates, the following terms have the following meanings.

A. "Dangerous weapon" has the same meaning as in Title 17-A, section 2, subsection 9, paragraph C.

B. "Department" means the Department of Public Safety.

C. "Designated groups" means law enforcement agencies and associations, public schools, public preschool programs, foster homes, hospitals or other facilities in which newborns are delivered, veterans' programs and members of the public.

D. "Firearm" has the same meaning as in Title 17-A, section 2, subsection 12-A.

E. "Foster home" means a family foster home as defined in Title 22, section 8101, subsection 3.

COMMITTEE AMENDMENT

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F. "Prescription drug" has the same meaning as in Title 22, section 8731, subsection 3-A.

G. "Public preschool program" has the same meaning as in Title 20-A, section 1, subsection 23-A.

H. "Public school" has the same meaning as in Title 20-A, section 1, subsection 24.

I. "Safety device" means a device designed to secure a firearm, a dangerous weapon or prescription drugs, including but not limited to a firearms safety device, safe, lock or lockbox designed for securing firearms, dangerous weapons or prescription drugs.

2. Program established. The Safe Homes Program is established and is administered by the department to support the safe storage of prescription drugs, firearms and dangerous weapons in homes or public spaces by providing grants for purchasing safety devices in accordance with this section.

3. Grants. The Safe Homes Program, established under subsection 2, must provide grants to fund the purchase of safety devices.

A. Grants may be provided under this subsection to designated groups and nonprofit and community organizations serving designated groups.

B. The department shall administer the provision of grants pursuant to this subsection through an agreement with a statewide law enforcement association.

C. The department shall adopt rules to implement this subsection. The rules must include procedures for assisting applicants with the following: the application process; accepting applications; approving and disapproving applications; distributing funding, coupons or vouchers to successful applicants; and expenditures of funds. Rules adopted pursuant to this paragraph are routine technical rules as defined in Title 5, chapter 375, subchapter 2-A.

4. Safe Homes Program Fund. The Safe Homes Program Fund is established as a nonlapsing fund to provide funding to achieve the purposes of this section. The fund consists of any funds received from private and public sources. The fund must be held separate and apart from all other money, funds and accounts. Any balance remaining in the fund at the end of any fiscal year must be carried forward to the next fiscal year. A small portion of the funding may be used by the department to fund administration of the grant program.'

Amend the bill by inserting after section 2 the following:

'Sec. 3. Report. By January 1, 2023 the Commissioner of Public Safety shall report to the joint standing committee of the Legislature having jurisdiction over criminal justice and public safety matters on plans for an education program to implement the Safe Homes Program established pursuant to the Maine Revised Statutes, Title 25, section 7001 and Safe Homes Awareness Month established by Title 1, section 150-R.

Sec. 4. Appropriations and allocations. The following appropriations and allocations are made.

**PUBLIC SAFETY, DEPARTMENT OF
Safe Homes Program Fund N949**

COMMITTEE AMENDMENT "A" to S.P. 660, L.D. 1861 (S-461)

ROS

Initiative: Establishes the Safe Homes Program Fund to provide grants for purchasing safety devices for the safe storage of prescription drugs, firearms and dangerous weapons in homes or public spaces.

FEDERAL EXPENDITURES FUND	2021-22	2022-23
All Other	\$0	\$500
FEDERAL EXPENDITURES FUND TOTAL	\$0	\$500

OTHER SPECIAL REVENUE FUNDS	2021-22	2022-23
All Other	\$0	\$500
OTHER SPECIAL REVENUE FUNDS TOTAL	\$0	\$500

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

SUMMARY

This amendment removes the requirement to provide educational information and materials and limits the grant program to providing grants for purchasing safety devices. The amendment removes the requirements to maintain a list of resources and programs that support the purposes of the Safe Homes Program. The amendment requires the Commissioner of Public Safety to report to the joint standing committee of the Legislature having jurisdiction over criminal justice and public safety matters by January 1, 2023 on plans for an education program to implement the Safe Homes Program and Safe Homes Awareness Month. The amendment also adds an appropriations and allocations section.

FISCAL NOTE REQUIRED

(See attached)



130th MAINE LEGISLATURE

LD 1861

LR 2361(02)

An Act To Establish the Safe Homes Program

Fiscal Note for Bill as Amended by Committee Amendment "A" (S-461)
 Committee: Criminal Justice and Public Safety
 Fiscal Note Required: Yes

Fiscal Note

	FY 2021-22	FY 2022-23	Projections FY 2023-24	Projections FY 2024-25
Appropriations/Allocations				
Federal Expenditures Fund	\$0	\$500	\$500	\$500
Other Special Revenue Funds	\$0	\$500	\$500	\$500

Fiscal Detail and Notes

The bill establishes the Safe Homes Program Fund to provide grants for purchasing safety devices for the safe storage of prescription drugs, firearms and dangerous weapons in homes or public spaces. The bill includes base Other Special Revenue Funds and Federal Expenditures Fund allocations of \$500 each beginning in fiscal year 2022-23 to the Department of Public Safety to allow expenditure of any money received from public and private sources, including federal grants.