

MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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L.D. 1997

Date: 3-29-22

(Filing No. H-877)

MAJORITY
LABOR AND HOUSING

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STATE OF MAINE
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
130TH LEGISLATURE
SECOND REGULAR SESSION

COMMITTEE AMENDMENT " " to H.P. 1484, L.D. 1997, "An Act To Implement Certain Recommendations of the Committee To Study the Feasibility of Creating Basic Income Security"

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

'Resolve, To Implement Certain Recommendations of the Committee To Study the Feasibility of Creating Basic Income Security'

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

'Emergency preamble. Whereas, acts and resolves of the Legislature do not become effective until 90 days after adjournment unless enacted as emergencies; and

Whereas, the Committee To Study the Feasibility of Creating Basic Income Security established in Public Law 2021, chapter 405 only met twice and was unable to complete the duties required of it; and

Whereas, in the judgment of the Legislature, these facts create an emergency within the meaning of the Constitution of Maine and require the following legislation as immediately necessary for the preservation of the public peace, health and safety; now, therefore, be it

Sec. 1. Committee To Study the Feasibility of Creating Basic Income Security; reestablished. Resolved: That the Committee To Study the Feasibility of Creating Basic Income Security, referred to in this resolve as "the committee," is reestablished.

Sec. 2. Committee membership. Resolved: That the committee consists of 11 members appointed as follows:

1. Three members of the Senate appointed by the President of the Senate, including a representative of each of the following joint standing committees:

A. The joint standing committee of the Legislature having jurisdiction over labor and housing matters;

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1 B. The joint standing committee of the Legislature having jurisdiction over health and
2 human services matters; and

3 C. The joint standing committee of the Legislature having jurisdiction over taxation
4 matters;

5 2. Three members of the House of Representatives appointed by the Speaker of the
6 House, including a representative of each of the following joint standing committees:

7 A. The joint standing committee of the Legislature having jurisdiction over labor and
8 housing matters;

9 B. The joint standing committee of the Legislature having jurisdiction over health and
10 human services matters; and

11 C. The joint standing committee of the Legislature having jurisdiction over innovation,
12 development, economic advancement and business matters;

13 3. Two members of the public who represent low-income workers and recipients of
14 public benefits, appointed by the President of the Senate;

15 4. One member of the public who represents business and industry, appointed by the
16 Speaker of the House;

17 5. One member of the public who represents higher education, appointed by the
18 Speaker of the House; and

19 6. One member of the public who represents a trade union, appointed by the Governor.

20 To the greatest extent practicable, the appointing authorities shall reappoint the persons
21 they appointed to the Committee To Study the Feasibility of Creating Basic Income
22 Security under Public Law 2021, chapter 405.

23 A legislative member who is not reelected may continue to serve on the committee for
24 the duration of the committee. If a member elects not to continue serving on the committee,
25 a person must be appointed to the committee in the same manner as the vacating member
26 was appointed.

27 **Sec. 3. Chairs. Resolved:** That the first-named Senate member is the Senate chair
28 and the first-named House of Representatives member is the House chair of the committee.

29 **Sec. 4. Appointments; convening of committee. Resolved:** That all
30 appointments must be made no later than 30 days following the effective date of this
31 resolve. The appointing authorities shall notify the Executive Director of the Legislative
32 Council once all appointments have been completed. After appointment of all members,
33 the chairs shall call and convene the first meeting of the committee. If 30 days or more
34 after the effective date of this resolve a majority of but not all appointments have been
35 made, the chairs may request authority and the Legislative Council may grant authority for
36 the committee to meet and conduct its business.

37 **Sec. 5. Duties. Resolved:** That the committee shall examine and assess the
38 feasibility, economic impact and poverty reduction effect of providing basic income
39 security through a direct cash payment system and other programs that are designed to help
40 individuals and families become more economically secure.

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1 The committee shall consider what the State can do to further the goal of helping
2 individuals and families to become more economically secure and to move state residents
3 toward improved economic security. The committee shall make recommendations about
4 what the Federal Government can do to help achieve this goal. The committee shall
5 consider the creation of a permanent committee in State Government to improve the
6 effectiveness and accessibility of the State's safety net and work support programs. For the
7 purposes of this paragraph, "safety net program" means a program designed to provide
8 economic assistance to individuals lacking adequate income and assets and "work support
9 program" means a program that provides economic support or services to help individuals
10 successfully gain or retain employment and increase their economic security.

11 In fulfilling its duties under this resolve, the committee shall as necessary invite input
12 from the Department of Administrative and Financial Services, Bureau of Revenue
13 Services and from the Office of Policy Innovation and the Future.

14 **Sec. 6. Staff assistance. Resolved:** That the Legislative Council shall provide
15 necessary staffing services to the committee, except that Legislative Council staff support
16 is not authorized when the Legislature is in regular or special session.

17 **Sec. 7. Report. Resolved:** That no later than December 6, 2023, the committee
18 shall submit a report that includes its findings and recommendations, including suggested
19 legislation, for presentation to the joint standing committees of the Legislature having
20 jurisdiction over labor matters and health and human services matters. Each joint standing
21 committee is authorized to report out a bill related to the report to the Second Regular
22 Session of the 131st Legislature.

23 **Sec. 8. Funding. Resolved:** That the committee is authorized to use the balances
24 from the study authorized in Public Law 2021, chapter 405. The committee may also seek
25 funding contributions to supplement the balances available to be used to support the hiring
26 of an outside consultant to conduct a feasibility study or to provide the committee with
27 additional staffing. No commitments may be made that require the use of the additional
28 funds until the funds have been approved by the Legislative Council in accordance with
29 the Legislative Council's policies.

30 **Sec. 9. Appropriations and allocations. Resolved:** That the following
31 appropriations and allocations are made.

32 **LEGISLATURE**

33 **Study Commissions - Funding 0444**

34 Initiative: Allocates funds for the costs to the Legislature of the Committee To Study the
35 Feasibility of Creating Basic Income Security.

36 OTHER SPECIAL REVENUE FUNDS	2021-22	2022-23
37 Personal Services	\$0	\$1,320
38 All Other	\$0	\$1,680
39		
40 OTHER SPECIAL REVENUE FUNDS TOTAL	\$0	\$3,000

41 **Emergency clause.** In view of the emergency cited in the preamble, this legislation
42 takes effect when approved.'

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

3 **SUMMARY**

4 This amendment, which is the majority report of the committee, removes the provisions
5 establishing the Committee To Improve the Effectiveness and Accessibility of Maine's
6 Safety Net and Work Support Programs and related provisions from the bill. The
7 amendment changes the bill to a resolve that, like the bill, reestablishes the Committee To
8 Study the Feasibility of Creating Basic Income Security, but adds a requirement that the
9 committee consider creating a permanent committee in State Government to improve the
10 effectiveness and accessibility of the State's safety net and work support programs. The
11 amendment also adds an emergency preamble and emergency clause. The amendment also
12 adds an appropriations and allocations section.

13 **FISCAL NOTE REQUIRED**

14 (See attached)



130th MAINE LEGISLATURE

LD 1997

LR 2630(02)

An Act To Implement Certain Recommendations of the Committee To Study the Feasibility of Creating Basic Income Security

Fiscal Note for Bill as Amended by Committee Amendment *A(CH-877)*

Committee: Labor and Housing

Fiscal Note Required: Yes

Fiscal Note

Legislative Cost/Study

	FY 2021-22	FY 2022-23	Projections FY 2023-24	Projections FY 2024-25
Appropriations/Allocations				
Other Special Revenue Funds	\$0	\$3,000	\$3,250	\$0

Legislative Cost/Study

The general operating expenses of this study are projected to be \$3,000 in fiscal year 2022-23 and \$3,250 in fiscal year 2023-24. The committee is authorized to use the balance from the study authorized in Public Law 2021, chapter 405, which was \$25,649.70 as of 2/28/22, for the costs of this bill. After subtracting the \$6,250 estimated cost of this bill, the remaining balance available to hire an outside consultant or additional staff support is estimated to be \$19,399.70. The committee is also authorized to seek additional funding and therefore an Other Special Revenue Funds allocation of \$3,000 in fiscal year 2022-23 to the Legislature is provided in the bill. The additional costs of providing staffing assistance to the study during the interim can be absorbed utilizing existing budgeted staff resources.

Fiscal Detail and Notes

Additional costs for the departments and agencies that are invited to provide input to the committee are expected to be minor and can be absorbed within exiting budgeted resources.