

# MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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Date 6/12/23

(Filing No S-279)

HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES

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STATE OF MAINE  
SENATE  
131ST LEGISLATURE  
FIRST SPECIAL SESSION

COMMITTEE AMENDMENT "A" to S P 519, L D 1282, "An Act to Streamline Income Verification Requests for Income Supplementation and Assistance Programs"

Amend the bill by striking out everything after the enacting clause and inserting the following

'Sec. 1. 22 MRSA §3110 is enacted to read

§3110 Authority to share information

1. Information provided upon request Upon request, the department shall provide timely access electronically to income records and program enrollment information of a recipient of assistance under this subtitle to state agencies, quasi-state agencies or other entities for purposes of the administration of and application for the low-income home energy assistance program described in Title 30-A, section 4722, subsection 1, paragraph W, the low-income assistance program described in Title 35-A, section 3214, subsection 2, a local, state or federal subsidized housing program, and an energy efficiency program administered by an entity approved by the department or any other entity or program that, in the judgment of the department, provides services or resources that substantially promote the health and well-being of recipients of its services

2. Authorization required. Before providing any information pursuant to this section, the department must receive express authorization from the recipient agreeing to the release of that information in accordance with federal and state law The department shall develop a simplified process to give the recipient the choice of authorizing the release of information pursuant to this section at the time of application or recertification for assistance under this subtitle or at another time of the individual's choice

3. Maintenance fees. The department may charge a reasonable annual maintenance fee to an entity that receives information pursuant to this section

4 Duties of recipients of information Records and program enrollment information obtained pursuant to this section may be used only in accordance with federal and state law and this section An entity that receives records is responsible for the protection and security of personally identifiable information contained in the records

COMMITTEE AMENDMENT

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5 Rules. The department shall adopt rules to carry out the purposes of this section. Rules adopted pursuant to this subsection are routine technical rules as defined in Title 5, chapter 375, subchapter 2-A, except that rules adopted pursuant to subsection 3 are major substantive rules as defined in Title 5, chapter 375, subchapter 2-A.

**Sec. 2. Stakeholder consultation.** Before establishing a plan or issuing a request for proposals to develop the technology to implement the provisions of this Act, but no later than November 1, 2023, the Department of Health and Human Services shall convene the agencies and organizations administering programs listed in the Maine Revised Statutes, Title 22, section 3110, subsection 1, the Office of the Public Advocate and any other interested parties as determined by the department to determine the means of delivering the information required under this Act and discuss whether temporary measures may be available to facilitate the exchange of information necessary to determine eligibility for the programs prior to the full implementation of this Act

**Sec. 3. Rules** The Department of Health and Human Services shall adopt rules as required by the Maine Revised Statutes, Title 22, section 3110, subsection 5 no later than October 1, 2025

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

**HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES, DEPARTMENT OF  
Office for Family Independence Z020**

Initiative Provides ongoing allocations for required technology		
<b>OTHER SPECIAL REVENUE FUNDS</b>	<b>2023-24</b>	<b>2024-25</b>
All Other	\$0	\$30,823
<b>OTHER SPECIAL REVENUE FUNDS TOTAL</b>	<b>\$0</b>	<b>\$30,823</b>

**Office for Family Independence Z020**

Initiative Provides a one-time appropriation for required technology development and testing

<b>GENERAL FUND</b>	<b>2023-24</b>	<b>2024-25</b>
All Other	\$0	\$1,217,885
<b>GENERAL FUND TOTAL</b>	<b>\$0</b>	<b>\$1,217,885</b>

**HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES,  
DEPARTMENT OF  
DEPARTMENT TOTALS**

	<b>2023-24</b>	<b>2024-25</b>
<b>GENERAL FUND</b>	<b>\$0</b>	<b>\$1,217,885</b>
<b>OTHER SPECIAL REVENUE FUNDS</b>	<b>\$0</b>	<b>\$30,823</b>
<b>DEPARTMENT TOTAL - ALL FUNDS</b>	<b>\$0</b>	<b>\$1,248,708</b>

ROS

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

3 **SUMMARY**

4 This amendment replaces the bill. It directs the Department of Health and Human  
5 Services to electronically provide income records and program enrollment information of  
6 recipients of the department's income supplementation and assistance programs when  
7 requested by entities for purposes of facilitating administration of the Low Income Home  
8 Energy Assistance Program, the Low Income Assistance Program, any local, state or  
9 federal subsidized housing program, and energy assistance programs approved by the  
10 department and any other entity that, in the judgment of the department, provides services  
11 or resources that promote the health and well-being of recipients of department services.  
12 Recipients of services must expressly authorize the release of any information provided.  
13 Records released may be used only in accordance with federal and state law, and any  
14 entities receiving information are responsible for the protection and security of personally  
15 identifiable information contained in the records. Rules must be adopted by October 1,  
16 2025. The department must consult with stakeholders before developing a system for the  
17 release of this information.

18 **FISCAL NOTE REQUIRED**  
19 (See attached)



# 131st MAINE LEGISLATURE

LD 1282

LR 671(02)

## An Act to Streamline Income Verification Requests for Income Supplementation and Assistance Programs

Fiscal Note for Bill as Amended by Committee Amendment "A" (LS-279)  
 Committee: Health and Human Services

Fiscal Note Required: Yes

### Fiscal Note

	FY 2023-24	FY 2024-25	Projections FY 2025-26	Projections FY 2026-27
<b>Net Cost (Savings)</b>				
General Fund	\$0	\$1,217,885	\$0	\$0
<b>Appropriations/Allocations</b>				
General Fund	\$0	\$1,217,885	\$0	\$0
Other Special Revenue Funds	\$0	\$30,823	\$41,097	\$41,097
<b>Revenue</b>				
Other Special Revenue Funds	\$0	\$30,823	\$41,097	\$41,097

#### Fiscal Detail and Notes

The bill includes a one-time General Fund appropriation to the Department of Health and Human Services (DHHS) of \$1,217,885 in fiscal year 2024-25 for required technology development and testing. It also includes ongoing Other Special Revenue Funds allocations of \$30,823 in fiscal year 2024-25 for required technology. Ongoing Other Special Revenue Funds revenue to DHHS is estimated to be \$30,823 beginning in fiscal year 2024-25 from an annual maintenance fee that may be charged to any entity that receives information from the new income verification system.

Additional costs to state agencies, quasi-state agencies or other entities associated with paying an annual maintenance fee can be absorbed within existing budgeted resources.