

# MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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Date 5/25/23

L D 1422  
(Filing No H- 239)

**HOUSING**

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**STATE OF MAINE  
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES  
131ST LEGISLATURE  
FIRST SPECIAL SESSION**

COMMITTEE AMENDMENT "A" to HP 918, L D 1422, "An Act to End Homelessness and Assist Students Who Are Homeless by Establishing a Housing Voucher Program and Providing Site-based Housing Services"

Amend the bill by striking out the title and substituting the following  
**'An Act to End Homelessness and Assist Students Who Are Homeless by Establishing a Rental Subsidy Program'**

Amend the bill by inserting after the title and before the enacting clause 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 current housing crisis is having a significant impact on students at the elementary and secondary school levels, and**

**Whereas, students experiencing homelessness are unable to benefit from their education as intended and are extremely vulnerable to exploitation and trauma, 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,'**

Amend the bill in section 1 in sub-c 14 in the 2nd line (page 1, line 4 in L D ) by striking out the following "**VOUCHER**" and inserting the following '**SUBSIDY**'

Amend the bill in section 1 in sub-c 14 in §4994-A in the first line (page 1, line 5 in L D ) by striking out the following "**Voucher**" and inserting the following '**Subsidy**'

Amend the bill in section 1 in sub-c 14 in §4994-A in subsection 2 in the first line (page 1, line 14 in L D ) by striking out the following "**voucher**" and inserting the following '**subsidy**'

Amend the bill by striking out all of sections 2 and 3 and inserting the following

**COMMITTEE AMENDMENT**

1           **Sec. 2. Subsidy program development.** The Maine State Housing Authority,  
 2 referred to in this section as "the authority," shall develop a rental subsidy program for  
 3 homeless students in coordination with the Department of Education and the Department  
 4 of Health and Human Services and other agencies or service providers as the authority  
 5 determines appropriate. The authority shall consider ways in which the services provided  
 6 by school-based housing navigators established by the federal McKinney-Vento Homeless  
 7 Assistance Act could benefit the administration of a rental subsidy program. The program  
 8 must provide housing subsidies directly to homeless students or to an adult family member  
 9 or guardian of the homeless student. In developing the program, the authority must  
 10 incorporate elements to provide housing subsidies to homeless students who have not  
 11 attained 18 years of age who do not have adult family members or guardians to secure  
 12 housing on their behalf. The authority shall report to the joint standing or joint select  
 13 committee of the Legislature having jurisdiction over housing matters on the progress of  
 14 the program's development no later than January 15, 2024.

15           **Sec. 3. Appropriations and allocations.** The following appropriations and  
 16 allocations are made

17           **HOUSING AUTHORITY, MAINE STATE**

18           **Housing Subsidy Program for Homeless Students N432**

19 Initiative Provides one-time funding for housing subsidies for homeless students in  
 20 elementary school and secondary school

21 <b>GENERAL FUND</b>	<b>2023-24</b>	<b>2024-25</b>
22           All Other	\$2,000,000	\$2,000,000
23		
24           GENERAL FUND TOTAL	<u>\$2,000,000</u>	<u>\$2,000,000</u>

25

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

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

30           **SUMMARY**

31           This amendment removes the portions of the bill that direct the Maine State Housing  
 32 Authority to identify 3 sites in the State to be used for site-based housing for homeless  
 33 students and also removes the associated one-time funding of \$3.5 million in fiscal years  
 34 2023-24 and 2024-25. The bill requires the authority to establish a voucher program for  
 35 homeless students, the amendment changes that to a housing subsidy program. The  
 36 amendment adds a directive that the authority develop the housing subsidy program in  
 37 consultation with the Department of Education and the Department of Health and Human  
 38 Services. The program must incorporate elements to provide housing subsidies to homeless  
 39 students who have not attained 18 years of age who do not have adult family members or  
 40 guardians to secure housing for them. Under the amendment, the authority is required to  
 41 report on the progress of the program's development no later than January 15, 2024. The

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COMMITTEE AMENDMENT *A* to H P 918, L D 1422

1 amendment also adds an emergency preamble and an emergency clause and changes the  
2 title

3

**FISCAL NOTE REQUIRED**

4

**(See attached)**

**COMMITTEE AMENDMENT**



# 131st MAINE LEGISLATURE

LD 1422

LR 723(02)

**An Act to End Homelessness and Assist Students Who Are Homeless by Establishing a Housing Voucher Program and Providing Site-based Housing Services**

**Fiscal Note for Bill as Amended by Committee Amendment 'A' (H-239)**

**Committee: Housing**

**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	\$2,000,000	\$2,000,000	\$0	\$0
<b>Appropriations/Allocations</b>				
General Fund	\$2,000,000	\$2,000,000	\$0	\$0

### Fiscal Detail and Notes

This bill includes one-time General Fund appropriations of \$2,000,000 in fiscal years 2023-24 and 2024-25 only to a newly established Housing Subsidy Program for Homeless Students within the Maine State Housing Authority (MSHA) to provide housing subsidies to homeless students in elementary and secondary school

Additional costs to the Department of Education and to the Department of Health and Human Services to coordinate with MSHA in the development of the rental subsidy program can be absorbed within existing budgeted resources