

MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

The following document is provided by the
LAW AND LEGISLATIVE DIGITAL LIBRARY
at the Maine State Law and Legislative Reference Library
<http://legislature.maine.gov/lawlib>



Reproduced from scanned originals with text recognition applied
(searchable text may contain some errors and/or omissions)

SAC
ROS

L.D. 2135

Date: 3/17/26

(Filing No. S-556)

VETERANS AND LEGAL AFFAIRS

Reproduced and distributed under the direction of the Secretary of the Senate.

STATE OF MAINE

SENATE

132ND LEGISLATURE

SECOND REGULAR SESSION

COMMITTEE AMENDMENT "A" to S.P. 834, L.D. 2135, "An Act to Provide Funding to Keep Maine Veterans Housed"

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

'Sec. 1. 37-B MRSA §513-B is enacted to read:

§513-B. Veterans' Housing Provider Incentive Program; establishment; report

The Veterans' Housing Provider Incentive Program is established to provide grants to organizations to support permanent housing for veteran populations.

1. Fund established. The Veterans' Housing Provider Incentive Fund, referred to in this section as "the fund," is established under the bureau for the purpose of receiving funds from state, federal and other sources, including donations from private citizens, corporations and entities for the purposes of this section.

2. Grants to support permanent housing. The bureau shall use the fund to award grants to organizations that have been determined by the United States Internal Revenue Service to be exempt from taxation under the United States Internal Revenue Code of 1986, Section 501(c)(3) and have as a core program supporting permanent housing for veteran populations. An organization awarded a grant under this section may use the funding for housing provider incentives, risk mitigation payments and past rental debt payments for veterans experiencing homelessness.

3. Rules. The bureau may adopt rules necessary to implement this section, including requirements for organizations to report on the use of grant funding received under this section. Rules adopted under this subsection are routine technical rules as defined in Title 5, chapter 375, subchapter 2-A.

4. Report. The bureau shall submit a report by February 15, 2027, and by February 15th in any year in which a grant is issued, regarding grants awarded to organizations under this section, including information from the organizations on their use of that funding, to the joint standing committee of the Legislature having jurisdiction over veterans affairs.

COMMITTEE AMENDMENT

ROS

1 **Sec. 2. Transfer; Department of Public Safety, Gambling Control Unit,**
 2 **Sports Wagering program, Other Special Revenue Funds account.**
 3 Notwithstanding any provision of law to the contrary, on or before June 30, 2027, the State
 4 Controller shall transfer \$90,000 from the Sports Wagering program, Other Special
 5 Revenue Funds account in the Department of Public Safety, Gambling Control Unit to the
 6 Veterans' Housing Provider Incentive Fund, Other Special Revenue Funds account in the
 7 Department of Defense, Veterans and Emergency Management, Maine Bureau of Veterans'
 8 Services for a grant program to support permanent housing for veteran populations.

9 **Sec. 3. Appropriations and allocations.** The following appropriations and
 10 allocations are made.

11 **DEFENSE, VETERANS AND EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT, DEPARTMENT**
 12 **OF**
 13 **Veterans' Housing Provider Incentive Fund N570**

14 Initiative: Provides one-time funds to issue grants to eligible organizations to support
 15 permanent housing.

16 OTHER SPECIAL REVENUE FUNDS	2025-26	2026-27
17 All Other	\$0	\$90,000
18		
19 OTHER SPECIAL REVENUE FUNDS TOTAL	<u>\$0</u>	<u>\$90,000</u>

20
 21 Amend the bill by relettering or renumbering any nonconsecutive Part letter or section
 22 number to read consecutively.

23 **SUMMARY**

24 This amendment replaces the bill. The amendment establishes the Veterans' Housing
 25 Provider Incentive Program and the Veterans' Housing Provider Incentive Fund within the
 26 Department of Defense, Veterans and Emergency Management, Maine Bureau of Veterans'
 27 Services. The purpose of the fund is to receive funds from state, federal and other sources
 28 for the purpose of awarding grants to tax-exempt 501(c)(3) organizations who have as a
 29 core program supporting permanent housing for veteran populations. Grant funding may
 30 be used by the organization for housing provider incentives, risk mitigation payments and
 31 past rental debt payments for veterans experiencing homelessness. The bureau may adopt
 32 routine technical rules related to the awarding of grants. The amendment also requires the
 33 bureau to submit a report regarding grants issued and the use of grant funding by
 34 organizations by February 15, 2027 and in any year in which a grant is issued.

35 The amendment also provides a one-time transfer of \$90,000 from the Department of
 36 Public Safety, Gambling Control Unit, Sports Wagering program to the Veterans' Housing
 37 Provider Incentive Fund.

38 **FISCAL NOTE REQUIRED**
 39 (See attached)



132nd MAINE LEGISLATURE

LD 2135

LR 2883(02)

An Act to Provide Funding to Keep Maine Veterans Housed

Fiscal Note for Bill as Amended by Committee Amendment "A" (S-556)
Committee: Veterans and Legal Affairs
Fiscal Note Required: Yes

Fiscal Note

	FY 2025-26	FY 2026-27	Projections FY 2027-28	Projections FY 2028-29
Appropriations/Allocations				
Other Special Revenue Funds	\$0	\$90,000	\$0	\$0
Transfers				
Other Special Revenue Funds	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0

Fiscal Detail and Notes

The bill includes a one-time Other Special Revenue Funds allocation to the Department of Defense, Veterans and Emergency Management of \$90,000 in fiscal year 2026-27 to issue grants to eligible organizations to support permanent housing.

The bill also includes a one-time transfer of \$90,000 from the Department of Public Safety, Sports Wagering program to the Department of Defense, Veterans and Emergency Management, Veterans Housing Provider Incentive Fund, Other Special Revenue Funds account in fiscal year 2026-27.