

MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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LAWS
OF THE
STATE OF MAINE

AS PASSED BY THE
ONE HUNDRED AND SEVENTEENTH LEGISLATURE

FIRST SPECIAL SESSION
November 28, 1995 to December 1, 1995

SECOND REGULAR SESSION
January 3, 1996 to April 4, 1996

THE GENERAL EFFECTIVE DATE FOR
FIRST REGULAR SESSION
NON-EMERGENCY LAWS IS
JULY 4, 1996

PUBLISHED BY THE REVISOR OF STATUTES
IN ACCORDANCE WITH MAINE REVISED STATUTES ANNOTATED,
TITLE 3, SECTION 163-A, SUBSECTION 4.

J.S. McCarthy Company
Augusta, Maine
1995

**PRIVATE AND SPECIAL LAWS OF THE STATE OF MAINE
AS PASSED AT
THE FIRST SPECIAL SESSION OF THE
ONE HUNDRED AND SEVENTEENTH LEGISLATURE
1995**

CHAPTER 51

H.P. 1166 - L.D. 1599

**An Act to Temporarily Reestablish
Eligibility Standards for Low-
Income Home Energy Assistance**

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

Whereas, recent funding decisions related to the federal Low-Income Home Energy Assistance Program have created significant financial hardships for Maine's low-income, elderly and disabled citizens; 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 enacted by the People of the State of Maine as follows:

Sec. 1. Eligibility and payment standards. Notwithstanding any other provision of law, until March 1, 1996, the Maine State Housing Authority shall extend eligibility for low-income home energy assistance on the same basis as eligibility was determined during the 1994-95 heating season and make benefit payments in amounts determined by the authority.

Sec. 2. Joint Standing Committee on Human Resources; hearing and legislation. The Joint Standing Committee on Human Resources shall hold a public hearing by January 31, 1996 to, at a minimum:

1. Seek alternatives to address State and Federal Government actions that have had an impact on the federal Low-Income Home Energy Assistance Program in relationship to the federal food stamp program; and

2. Consider long-term solutions and alternatives to provide adequate support within existing budgeted

resources for the State's low income, elderly and disabled citizens.

The committee may report out legislation or other recommendations related to the issues addressed at the hearing to the Second Regular Session of the Legislature no later than March 1, 1996.

Sec. 3. Repeal. This Act is repealed March 1, 1996.

Emergency clause. In view of the emergency cited in the preamble, this Act takes effect when approved.

Effective December 1, 1995.
