

PLEASE NOTE: Legislative Information **cannot** perform research, provide legal advice, or interpret Maine law. For legal assistance, please contact a qualified attorney.

Amend the resolve in section 2 in the first paragraph in the 2nd line (page 1, line 9 in L.D.) by striking out the following: "9" and inserting the following: '10'

Amend the resolve in section 2 by inserting after subsection 1 the following:

‘2. The general assistance program manager in the Department of Health and Human Services;’

Amend the resolve in section 2 by renumbering the subsections to read consecutively.

Amend the resolve in section 4 in subsection 1 in the 2nd line (page 1, line 35 in L.D.) by inserting after the following: "properly" the following: ', uniformly'

Amend the resolve in section 4 by inserting after subsection 2 the following:

‘3. Examine whether there are other income sources, such as unemployment insurance and the Circuitbreaker Program, that should be counted as income sources for calculating general assistance;

4. Examine the appropriate calculation of lump#sum payments for calculating general assistance and the level of debt of the applicant due to catastrophic events;

5. Study the appropriate term of ineligibility for general assistance following a work requirement violation, discharge for misconduct or refusal to use an available resource;’

Amend the resolve in section 4 by renumbering the subsections to read consecutively.

Amend the resolve in section 5 in the last line (page 2, line 19 in L.D.) by inserting after the following: "the" the following: 'Director of the'

Amend the resolve by striking out all of section 6 and inserting the following:

‘Sec. 6 Report. Resolved: That, no later than February 15, 2012, the working group shall submit a report that includes its findings and recommendations, including suggested legislation, to the Joint Standing Committee on Health and Human Services.

Sec. 7. Appropriations and allocations. The following appropriations and allocations are made.

HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES, DEPARTMENT OF (FORMERLY DHS)

Office of Integrated Access and Support - Central Office Z020

Initiative: Appropriates and allocates funds for the salary and benefit costs of 2 limited#period positions, one Family Independence Program Manager and one Customer Representative Associate II, to complete General Assistance program research, analysis and data collection from municipalities. These positions end June 15, 2012.

GENERAL FUND	2011-12	2012-13
Personal Services	\$52,917	\$0

GENERAL FUND TOTAL	\$52,917	\$0
OTHER SPECIAL REVENUE FUNDS	2011-12	2012-13
Personal Services	\$52,917	\$0
OTHER SPECIAL REVENUE FUNDS TOTAL	\$52,917	\$0

SUMMARY

This amendment makes the following changes to the resolve, which creates a working group to study and to make recommendations regarding the administration of general assistance programs.

1. It adds the general assistance program manager in the Department of Health and Human Services to the working group, increasing the number of members of the group from 9 to 10.

2. It adds to the duties of the working group so that the group examines uniformity of general assistance administration, studies whether additional sources of income should be included in the calculation of general assistance, determines whether lump#sum payments should be calculated differently and studies whether the length of ineligibility following a work requirement violation, discharge for misconduct or refusal to use an available resource is appropriate.

3. It clarifies that the Director of the Office of Policy and Legal Analysis must be notified of meetings of the working group.

4. It clarifies that the report from the working group must be submitted to the Joint Standing Committee on Health and Human Services.

5. It adds an appropriations and allocations section.

FISCAL NOTE REQUIRED
(See attached)