

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

Amend the bill by striking out the title and substituting the following:

**'Resolve, To End Fraud in Maine's Welfare Benefit Programs'**

Amend the bill by striking out everything after the title and before the summary and inserting the following:

**'Sec. 1 Verification of eligibility. Resolved:** That by October 1, 2007 the Department of Health and Human Services shall take action to decrease the incidence of welfare fraud by amending the rules related to the MaineCare program and the Temporary Assistance for Needy Families program and to the determination of eligibility for the federal food stamp program to require verification of eligibility. The rules must require verification of income and residence through independent sources such as check stubs and rent receipts or through automated systems for the exchange of information with the Department of Labor, the United States Social Security Administration and the United States Internal Revenue Service to the extent allowed by federal and state law applicable to the circumstances of the applicant. Rules adopted under this section are routine technical rules as defined by the Maine Revised Statutes, Title 5, chapter 375, subchapter 2-A. '

**SUMMARY**

This amendment changes the bill to a resolve and attempts to address and mitigate fraud in the MaineCare program and in the Temporary Assistance for Needy Families program and in determining eligibility for the federal food stamp program. The amendment requires routine technical rulemaking that would require verification of eligibility through verification of income and residence.

**FISCAL NOTE REQUIRED**

(See attached)