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Date: (Filing No. S-)

HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES

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

**STATE OF MAINE
SENATE
125TH LEGISLATURE
FIRST REGULAR SESSION**

COMMITTEE AMENDMENT “ ” to S.P. 142, L.D. 509, Bill, “An Act To Establish Host Homes in Maine as Alternative Emergency Shelters for Homeless Youth”

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

'An Act To Establish Emergency Shelter Family Homes To Host Youth Referred by the Department of Corrections'

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

'Sec. 1. 22 MRSA §4099-H is enacted to read:

§4099-H. Emergency shelter family homes for youth

This section applies to emergency shelter family homes for youths in order to provide the youths with voluntary, safe, emergency housing with individuals or families in locations as close as reasonably possible to the home communities of the youths.

1. Definitions. As used in this section, unless this context otherwise indicates, the following terms have the following meanings.

A. "Emergency shelter family home" means a home that provides community-based emergency shelter with an individual or a family that is operated 24 hours a day under the auspices of an emergency shelter licensed by the department in accordance with rules adopted by the department under sections 7801 and 8102.

B. "Youth" means a child 12 to 20 years of age.

2. Placement. A licensed emergency shelter may place in an emergency shelter family home operated by the shelter a youth who was referred to the shelter by the Department of Corrections if the shelter has obtained the agreement of the parent or legal guardian of the youth.

3. Requirements. A licensed emergency shelter that operates an emergency shelter family home must be licensed as a child placing agency by the department under rules adopted pursuant to sections 7801 and 8202 and must operate the home under a contract

COMMITTEE AMENDMENT

1 with the Department of Corrections and in accordance with an agreement between the
2 department and the Department of Corrections. An emergency shelter family home may
3 be, but is not required to be, licensed as a children's home by the department under rules
4 adopted pursuant to sections 7801 and 8202.'

5 **SUMMARY**

6 The bill is a concept draft. This amendment replaces the bill, changes the title and
7 authorizes a licensed emergency shelter to operate an emergency shelter family home for
8 youths in order to provide them with voluntary, safe, emergency housing with trained
9 families or individuals in locations as close as reasonably possible to the home
10 communities of the youths if the shelter has a contract with the Department of
11 Corrections, the Department of Corrections refers the youths and the parents or legal
12 guardians of the youths are in agreement.