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Date: (Filing No. H- )

**VETERANS AND LEGAL AFFAIRS**

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**STATE OF MAINE  
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES  
132ND LEGISLATURE  
FIRST SPECIAL SESSION**

COMMITTEE AMENDMENT “ ” to H.P. 430, L.D. 662, “An Act to Fund Military Sexual Trauma Liaisons”

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

**'An Act to Support Survivors of Military Sexual Trauma and Active Duty Military Members Transitioning to Civilian Life'**

Amend the bill by inserting after the title and before the enacting clause the following:

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

**Whereas,** veterans have made significant sacrifices to protect our country and ensure our freedom, and many of those veterans in Maine may face challenges transitioning back to civilian life; and

**Whereas,** the Legislature remains committed to supporting efforts that assist military service members and their families as they separate from military service and transition back to civilian life by helping them find stable employment, access health care and housing and find their place in society; and

**Whereas,** it is particularly important to support those veterans who have sacrificed more than others because they have experienced military sexual trauma while serving their country in the military; and

**Whereas,** this legislation needs to take effect before the expiration of the 90-day period to provide desperately needed funding to organizations that support veterans and their families; 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,'

**COMMITTEE AMENDMENT**

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

3 'Sec. 1. 5 MRSA §13056-K is enacted to read:

4 **§13056-K. Active Duty Military Transition to Civilian Life Fund and Program**

5 **1. Fund established; purpose.** The Active Duty Military Transition to Civilian Life  
6 Fund, referred to in this section as "the fund," is established within the department as an  
7 Other Special Revenue Funds account for the purpose of receiving funds for the program.

8 **2. Program established; purpose.** The Active Duty Military Transition to Civilian  
9 Life Program, referred to in this section as "the program," is established within the  
10 department to support organizations in the State conducting outreach and providing support  
11 services to active duty military members and their families who are transitioning to civilian  
12 life.

13 **3. Fund sources; administration.** The fund consists of money appropriated or  
14 allocated to the fund or received from public or private sources. Through agreements or  
15 cooperative arrangements, the department may receive, administer and disburse any funds  
16 or contributions from a state or federal agency, person, firm or corporation, either  
17 independently or in conjunction with state funds appropriated or allocated to the fund for  
18 the purposes of this section.

19 **4. Funds held separate; interest credited; nonlapsing.** The funds in the fund must  
20 be held separate and apart from all other money, funds and accounts. Interest earned by  
21 the fund must be credited to the fund. Any unexpended balances remaining in the fund at  
22 the end of any fiscal year do not lapse and must be carried forward to the next fiscal year.

23 **Sec. 2. 22 MRSA §2430, sub-§3,** as amended by PL 2021, c. 181, Pt. A, §2, is  
24 repealed.

25 **Sec. 3. 22 MRSA §2430, sub-§3-A** is enacted to read:

26 **3-A. Uses of fund.** As allocated by the Legislature, the fund may be used for:

27 A. Expenses of the department to administer this chapter;

28 B. Grants for research regarding cannabis for medical use in accordance with  
29 subsection 5;

30 C. Grants to organizations in the State conducting outreach and providing support  
31 services to active duty military members and their families who are transitioning to  
32 civilian life. Notwithstanding any provision of law to the contrary, on or before  
33 September 30, 2025, and by every September 30th thereafter, the State Controller shall  
34 transfer \$200,000 from the fund to the Active Duty Military Transition to Civilian Life  
35 Fund established within the Department of Economic and Community Development  
36 under Title 5, section 13056-K to administer grants issued pursuant to this paragraph;  
37 and

38 D. Grants to organizations in the State providing housing and support services for  
39 unhoused veterans and their children and for survivors of military sexual trauma.  
40 Notwithstanding any provision of law to the contrary, on or before September 30, 2025,  
41 and by every September 30th thereafter, the State Controller shall transfer \$285,000

1 from the fund to the Survivors of Military Sexual Trauma Fund under section 3971 to  
 2 administer grants issued pursuant to this paragraph.

3 **Sec. 4. 22 MRSA c. 1069** is enacted to read:

4 **CHAPTER 1069**

5 **SURVIVORS OF MILITARY SEXUAL TRAUMA FUND AND PROGRAM**

6 **§3971. Survivors of Military Sexual Trauma Fund and Program**

7 **1. Fund established; purpose.** The Survivors of Military Sexual Trauma Fund,  
 8 referred to in this section as "the fund," is established within the department. The fund may  
 9 receive money from any available state, federal or private source. The fund may not lapse  
 10 but must be carried forward to carry out the purposes of this section.

11 **2. Program established; purpose.** The Survivors of Military Sexual Trauma  
 12 Program, referred to in this section as "the program," is established within the department  
 13 to assist organizations in the State that provide housing and support services for unhoused  
 14 veterans and their children and for survivors of military sexual trauma.

15 **3. Uses of fund.** The fund may be used to support the program.

16 **Sec. 5. Appropriations and allocations.** The following appropriations and  
 17 allocations are made.

18 **ECONOMIC AND COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT, DEPARTMENT OF**

19 **Active Duty Military Transition to Civilian Life Fund N525**

20 Initiative: Provides ongoing allocations to support organizations in the State conducting  
 21 outreach and providing support services to active duty military members and their families  
 22 who are transitioning to civilian life.

|    |  |                  |                  |
|----|--|------------------|------------------|
| 23 | <b>OTHER SPECIAL REVENUE FUNDS</b>       | <b>2025-26</b>   | <b>2026-27</b>   |
| 24 | All Other                                | \$200,000        | \$200,000        |
| 25 |  |                  |                  |
| 26 | <b>OTHER SPECIAL REVENUE FUNDS TOTAL</b> | <u>\$200,000</u> | <u>\$200,000</u> |

27

28 **ECONOMIC AND COMMUNITY**  
 29 **DEVELOPMENT, DEPARTMENT OF**  
 30 **DEPARTMENT TOTALS**

|    |                                     |                         |                         |
|----|-------------------------------------|-------------------------|-------------------------|
| 31 |                                     | <b>2025-26</b>          | <b>2026-27</b>          |
| 32 | <b>OTHER SPECIAL REVENUE FUNDS</b>  | <b>\$200,000</b>        | <b>\$200,000</b>        |
| 33 |                                     |                         |                         |
| 34 | <b>DEPARTMENT TOTAL - ALL FUNDS</b> | <u><b>\$200,000</b></u> | <u><b>\$200,000</b></u> |

35 **HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES, DEPARTMENT OF**

36 **Survivors of Military Sexual Trauma Fund N535**

1 Initiative: Provides ongoing allocations to support organizations in the State providing  
 2 housing and support services for unhoused veterans and their children and for survivors of  
 3 military sexual trauma.

|   |                                    |                  |                  |
|---|------------------------------------|------------------|------------------|
| 4 | <b>OTHER SPECIAL REVENUE FUNDS</b> | <b>2025-26</b>   | <b>2026-27</b>   |
| 5 | All Other                          | \$285,000        | \$285,000        |
| 6 |                                    |                  |                  |
| 7 | OTHER SPECIAL REVENUE FUNDS TOTAL  | <u>\$285,000</u> | <u>\$285,000</u> |

|    |                                     |                         |                         |
|----|-------------------------------------|-------------------------|-------------------------|
| 8  |                                     |                         |                         |
| 9  | <b>HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES,</b>   |                         |                         |
| 10 | <b>DEPARTMENT OF</b>                |                         |                         |
| 11 | <b>DEPARTMENT TOTALS</b>            | <b>2025-26</b>          | <b>2026-27</b>          |
| 12 |                                     |                         |                         |
| 13 | <b>OTHER SPECIAL REVENUE FUNDS</b>  | <b>\$285,000</b>        | <b>\$285,000</b>        |
| 14 |                                     |                         |                         |
| 15 | <b>DEPARTMENT TOTAL - ALL FUNDS</b> | <u><b>\$285,000</b></u> | <u><b>\$285,000</b></u> |

|    |                                    |                         |                         |
|----|------------------------------------|-------------------------|-------------------------|
| 16 |                                    |                         |                         |
| 17 | <b>SECTION TOTALS</b>              | <b>2025-26</b>          | <b>2026-27</b>          |
| 18 |                                    |                         |                         |
| 19 | <b>OTHER SPECIAL REVENUE FUNDS</b> | <b>\$485,000</b>        | <b>\$485,000</b>        |
| 20 |                                    |                         |                         |
| 21 | <b>SECTION TOTAL - ALL FUNDS</b>   | <u><b>\$485,000</b></u> | <u><b>\$485,000</b></u> |

22

23 **Emergency clause.** In view of the emergency cited in the preamble, this legislation  
 24 takes effect when approved.'

25 Amend the bill by relettering or renumbering any nonconsecutive Part letter or section  
 26 number to read consecutively.

27 **SUMMARY**

28 This amendment replaces the bill and changes the title. The amendment:

29 1. Provides an ongoing annual transfer of \$200,000 from the Medical Use of Cannabis  
 30 Fund to the Active Duty Military Transition to Civilian Life Fund established within the  
 31 Department of Economic and Community Development to support organizations in the  
 32 State that conduct outreach and provide support services to active duty military members  
 33 and their families who are transitioning to civilian life;

34 2. Creates the Survivors of Military Sexual Trauma Program within the Department  
 35 of Health and Human Services to assist organizations in the State that provide housing and  
 36 support services for unhoused veterans and their children and for survivors of military  
 37 sexual trauma;

38 3. Provides an ongoing annual transfer of \$285,000 from the Medical Use of Cannabis  
 39 Fund to the Survivors of Military Sexual Trauma Fund established within the Department  
 40 of Health and Human Services to support organizations in the State that provide housing  
 41 and support services for unhoused veterans and their children and for survivors of military  
 42 sexual trauma;

