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Date: (Filing No. H- )

**APPROPRIATIONS AND FINANCIAL AFFAIRS**

Reproduced and distributed under the direction of the Clerk of the House.

**STATE OF MAINE  
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES  
132ND LEGISLATURE  
SECOND REGULAR SESSION**

COMMITTEE AMENDMENT “ ” to H.P. 444, L.D. 705, “An Act to Provide Appropriations and Allocations for the Operations of State Government”

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

**'An Act to Correct Technical Errors in Public Law 2025, Chapter 650'**

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

**'Sec. 1. 36 MRSA §5124-C, sub-§1-B, ¶A,** as enacted by PL 2023, c. 412, Pt. ZZZ, §5, is amended by amending subparagraph (1) to read:

(1) For single individuals and married persons filing separate returns, \$12,000 \$15,000;

**Sec. 2. PL 2025, c. 650, Part N, section 8** is amended to read:

**Sec. N-8. Application.** This Aet Part applies to taxable years beginning on or after January 1, 2026.

**Sec. 3. PL 2025, c. 650, Part FF, section 4** is amended to read:

**Sec. FF-4. Cost-of-living adjustment for essential support workers; MaineCare rates.** Notwithstanding any provision of law to the contrary, the Department of Health and Human Services shall submit a request to seek approval from the United States Department of Health and Human Services, Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services to implement a cost-of-living adjustment of 3.07% for reimbursement rates subject to rule Chapter 101: MaineCare Benefits Manual, Chapter II, Sections 13, 65 and 92 and rule Chapter 101: MaineCare Benefits Manual, Chapter III, Sections 2, 12, 17, 18, 19, 20, 21, 26, 28, 29, 40, 67, 96 and 97 Appendix C effective January 1, 2027 and for reimbursement rates subject to rule Chapter 101: MaineCare Benefits Manual, Chapter III, Section 97 Appendix B and Section 97 Appendix D effective July 1, 2026. The department shall submit the request required to seek approval under this section to implement the cost-of-living adjustment as soon as practicable.

**COMMITTEE AMENDMENT**

1           **Sec. 4. Transfer from MaineCare Stabilization Fund; General Fund.**  
 2           Notwithstanding any provision of law to the contrary, on or before June 30, 2027, the State  
 3           Controller shall transfer \$1,653,131 from the MaineCare Stabilization Fund Other Special  
 4           Revenue Funds account within the Department of Health and Human Services to the  
 5           unappropriated surplus of the General Fund.

6           **Sec. 5. Funds to address unmet needs of older adults; distribution to area**  
 7           **agencies on aging.** Funds appropriated in the amount of \$3,000,000 to the Department  
 8           of Health and Human Services, Office of Aging and Disability Services Central Office  
 9           program in Public Law 2025, chapter 650, Part A, section 17 to address unmet needs of  
 10          older adults through community-based services and programs delivered by the area agency  
 11          in each of the State's coordinated community program areas must be distributed to the area  
 12          agencies, based on priorities identified by local advisory councils to meet regional needs,  
 13          through the intrastate funding formula to develop programs and deliver services necessary  
 14          for the general well-being of older adults, including, but not limited to, in-home services,  
 15          case management services, meals programs, wellness services, respite for caregivers,  
 16          public education and outreach, volunteer services and information and referral services.

17          **Sec. 6. Appropriations and allocations.** The following appropriations and  
 18          allocations are made.

19          **EDUCATION, DEPARTMENT OF**

20          **Early Childhood Nutrition Grant Program N583**

21          Initiative: Provides ongoing, nonlapsing funding for a grant program to allow school  
 22          administrative units to enter into agreements with providers of off-site public preschool  
 23          programs to provide students in those programs with breakfast, lunch and a snack.

24 <b>GENERAL FUND</b>	<b>2025-26</b>	<b>2026-27</b>
25          All Other	\$0	\$375,000
26		
27          GENERAL FUND TOTAL	\$0	\$375,000

28          **Early Childhood Nutrition Grant Program N583**

29          Initiative: Deappropriates one-time, nonlapsing funding for a grant program to allow school  
 30          administrative units to enter into agreements with providers of off-site public preschool  
 31          programs to provide students in those programs with breakfast, lunch and a snack.

32 <b>GENERAL FUND</b>	<b>2025-26</b>	<b>2026-27</b>
33          All Other	\$0	(\$375,000)
34		
35          GENERAL FUND TOTAL	\$0	(\$375,000)

36

37          **EDUCATION, DEPARTMENT OF**

38 <b>DEPARTMENT TOTALS</b>	<b>2025-26</b>	<b>2026-27</b>
39		
40 <b>GENERAL FUND</b>	<b>\$0</b>	<b>\$0</b>
41		
42 <b>DEPARTMENT TOTAL - ALL FUNDS</b>	<b>\$0</b>	<b>\$0</b>

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

2 **Medical Care - Payments to Providers 0147**

3 Initiative: Provides funding to implement a cost-of-living adjustment for direct care  
 4 services subject to rule Chapter 101: MaineCare Benefits Manual, Chapter III, Section 28.

5	<b>GENERAL FUND</b>	<b>2025-26</b>	<b>2026-27</b>
6	All Other	\$0	\$841,377
7			
8	GENERAL FUND TOTAL	<u>\$0</u>	<u>\$841,377</u>

9

10	<b>FEDERAL EXPENDITURES FUND</b>	<b>2025-26</b>	<b>2026-27</b>
11	All Other	\$0	\$1,235,634
12			
13	FEDERAL EXPENDITURES FUND TOTAL	<u>\$0</u>	<u>\$1,235,634</u>

14

15	<b>FEDERAL BLOCK GRANT FUND</b>	<b>2025-26</b>	<b>2026-27</b>
16	All Other	\$0	\$122,894
17			
18	FEDERAL BLOCK GRANT FUND TOTAL	<u>\$0</u>	<u>\$122,894</u>

19 **Medical Care - Payments to Providers 0147**

20 Initiative: Provides funding to implement a cost-of-living adjustment for direct care  
 21 services subject to rule Chapter 101: MaineCare Benefits Manual, Chapter III, Section 97  
 22 Appendix B and Section 97 Appendix D.

23	<b>FEDERAL EXPENDITURES FUND</b>	<b>2025-26</b>	<b>2026-27</b>
24	All Other	\$0	\$1,598,732
25			
26	FEDERAL EXPENDITURES FUND TOTAL	<u>\$0</u>	<u>\$1,598,732</u>

27

28	<b>FEDERAL BLOCK GRANT FUND</b>	<b>2025-26</b>	<b>2026-27</b>
29	All Other	\$0	\$36,304
30			
31	FEDERAL BLOCK GRANT FUND TOTAL	<u>\$0</u>	<u>\$36,304</u>

32 **Mental Health Services - Child Medicaid Z207**

33 Initiative: Provides funding to implement a cost-of-living adjustment for direct care  
 34 services subject to rule Chapter 101: MaineCare Benefits Manual, Chapter III, Section 97  
 35 Appendix B and Section 97 Appendix D.

36	<b>GENERAL FUND</b>	<b>2025-26</b>	<b>2026-27</b>
37	All Other	\$0	\$811,754
38			
39	GENERAL FUND TOTAL	<u>\$0</u>	<u>\$811,754</u>

40

1	<b>HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES,</b>		
2	<b>DEPARTMENT OF</b>		
3	<b>DEPARTMENT TOTALS</b>	<b>2025-26</b>	<b>2026-27</b>
4			
5	<b>GENERAL FUND</b>	<b>\$0</b>	<b>\$1,653,131</b>
6	<b>FEDERAL EXPENDITURES FUND</b>	<b>\$0</b>	<b>\$2,834,366</b>
7	<b>FEDERAL BLOCK GRANT FUND</b>	<b>\$0</b>	<b>\$159,198</b>
8			
9	<b>DEPARTMENT TOTAL - ALL FUNDS</b>	<b>\$0</b>	<b>\$4,646,695</b>
10	<b>HOUSING AUTHORITY, MAINE STATE</b>		
11	<b>Low-income Home Energy Assistance - MSHA 0708</b>		
12	Initiative: Provides ongoing funding for low-income electric ratepayer assistance.		
13	<b>GENERAL FUND</b>	<b>2025-26</b>	<b>2026-27</b>
14	All Other	\$0	\$7,500,000
15			
16	GENERAL FUND TOTAL	\$0	\$7,500,000
17	<b>Low-income Home Energy Assistance - MSHA 0708</b>		
18	Initiative: Deappropriates one-time funding for low-income electric ratepayer assistance.		
19	<b>GENERAL FUND</b>	<b>2025-26</b>	<b>2026-27</b>
20	All Other	\$0	(\$7,500,000)
21			
22	GENERAL FUND TOTAL	\$0	(\$7,500,000)
23			
24	<b>HOUSING AUTHORITY, MAINE STATE</b>		
25	<b>DEPARTMENT TOTALS</b>	<b>2025-26</b>	<b>2026-27</b>
26			
27	<b>GENERAL FUND</b>	<b>\$0</b>	<b>\$0</b>
28			
29	<b>DEPARTMENT TOTAL - ALL FUNDS</b>	<b>\$0</b>	<b>\$0</b>
30			
31	<b>SECTION TOTALS</b>	<b>2025-26</b>	<b>2026-27</b>
32			
33	<b>GENERAL FUND</b>	<b>\$0</b>	<b>\$1,653,131</b>
34	<b>FEDERAL EXPENDITURES FUND</b>	<b>\$0</b>	<b>\$2,834,366</b>
35	<b>FEDERAL BLOCK GRANT FUND</b>	<b>\$0</b>	<b>\$159,198</b>
36			
37	<b>SECTION TOTAL - ALL FUNDS</b>	<b>\$0</b>	<b>\$4,646,695</b>

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

**SUMMARY**

1  
2 This amendment replaces the bill, which is a concept draft. The amendment makes  
3 corrections and clarifying changes to Public Law 2025, chapter 650 as follows.

4 It clarifies that the standard deduction for tax year 2025 is \$15,000.

5 It clarifies that the application date for the pass-through entity tax applies only to the  
6 Part of Public Law 2025, chapter 650 that enacts the pass-through entity tax.

7 It includes reimbursement rates subject to rule Chapter 101: MaineCare Benefits  
8 Manual, Chapter III, Section 28, Section 97 Appendix B and Section 97 Appendix D in the  
9 3.07% cost-of-living adjustment for essential support workers.

10 It provides a one-time transfer from the MaineCare Stabilization Fund Other Special  
11 Revenue Funds account within the Department of Health and Human Services to the  
12 General Fund to fund the General Fund portion of the cost-of-living adjustments for fiscal  
13 year 2026-27.

14 It provides that the funds provided in Public Law 2025, chapter 650 to address unmet  
15 needs of older adults through community-based services and programs must be distributed  
16 to area agencies based on priorities identified by local advisory councils to meet regional  
17 needs through the intrastate funding formula to develop programs and deliver services to  
18 older adults.

19 It provides appropriations and allocations. It changes the funding provided for grants  
20 in the early childhood nutrition grant program in Public Law 2025, chapter 650 from one-  
21 time to ongoing. It also changes the funding provided for low-income electric ratepayer  
22 assistance in Public Law 2025, chapter 650 from one-time to ongoing. It also includes the  
23 appropriations and allocations necessary for the cost-of-living adjustments.

24 **FISCAL NOTE REQUIRED**

25 **(See attached)**