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Date: (Filing No. H-)

LABOR AND HOUSING

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**STATE OF MAINE
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
130TH LEGISLATURE
FIRST SPECIAL SESSION**

COMMITTEE AMENDMENT “ ” to H.P. 578, L.D. 773, “An Act To Assist Public School Students and Families Who Are Homeless”

Amend the bill in section 1 in §4014 in the first indented paragraph in the 6th line (page 1, line 9 in L.D.) by striking out the following: "temporary"

Amend the bill in section 1 in §4014 in the first indented paragraph in the last line (page 1, line 10 in L.D.) by striking out the following: "4762" and inserting the following: '4765'

Amend the bill by striking out all of section 2 and inserting the following:

'Sec. 2. 30-A MRSA c. 201, sub-c. 3-C is enacted to read:

SUBCHAPTER 3-C

HOMELESS STUDENT ASSISTANCE PROGRAM

§4765. Homeless Student Assistance Program

1. Program established. The Homeless Student Assistance Program, referred to in this section as "the program," is established within the Maine State Housing Authority. The purpose of the program is to assist eligible students and families with accessing housing assistance programs pursuant to Title 20-A, section 4014.

2. Eligibility. The Maine State Housing Authority shall, upon the referral of an eligible student and family by a local educational agency liaison, assist the student and family with accessing housing assistance programs pursuant to Title 20-A, section 4014.

3. Funding. A maximum of \$2,000,000 in funding for the program must be allocated to the fund established in section 4766 from funds provided to the State by the Federal Government pursuant to the American Rescue Plan Act of 2021, Public Law 117-2, to the extent the funds are eligible to be used for the purposes of the program in accordance with federal law and regulations.

COMMITTEE AMENDMENT

1 **4. Rules.** The Maine State Housing Authority may adopt rules to implement this
 2 section. Rules adopted pursuant to this subsection are routine technical rules as defined in
 3 Title 5, chapter 375, subchapter 2-A.

4 **§4766. Homeless Student Assistance Program Fund**

5 The Homeless Student Assistance Program Fund is established as a nonlapsing fund
 6 within the Maine State Housing Authority. The Maine State Housing Authority may apply
 7 money in the fund for purposes authorized by this subchapter.

8 **Sec. 3. Appropriations and allocations.** The following appropriations and
 9 allocations are made.

10 **HOUSING AUTHORITY, MAINE STATE**

11 **Homeless Student Assistance Program N368**

12 Initiative: Provides one-time funds in fiscal year 2021-22 and fiscal year 2022-23 only to
 13 assist eligible students and families with accessing housing assistance programs. Funds
 14 appropriated for this purpose do not lapse but must be carried forward into the next fiscal
 15 year to be used only for the purposes provided.

16	GENERAL FUND	2021-22	2022-23
17	All Other	\$1,000,000	\$1,000,000
18			
19	GENERAL FUND TOTAL	<u>\$1,000,000</u>	<u>\$1,000,000</u>

20 **Homeless Student Assistance Program N368**

21 Initiative: Provides base allocations in fiscal year 2021-22 and fiscal year 2022-23 only to
 22 authorize expenditures from funds provided to the State pursuant to the American Rescue
 23 Plan Act of 2021, Public Law 117-2 to assist eligible students and families with accessing
 24 housing assistance programs in the event funds are eligible to be used for this purpose.

25	FEDERAL EXPENDITURES FUND	2021-22	2022-23
26	All Other	\$500	\$500
27			
28	FEDERAL EXPENDITURES FUND TOTAL	<u>\$500</u>	<u>\$500</u>

30 **HOUSING AUTHORITY, MAINE STATE**

31	DEPARTMENT TOTALS	2021-22	2022-23
32			
33	GENERAL FUND	\$1,000,000	\$1,000,000
34	FEDERAL EXPENDITURES FUND	\$500	\$500
35			
36	DEPARTMENT TOTAL - ALL FUNDS	<u>\$1,000,500</u>	<u>\$1,000,500</u>

37
 38 Amend the bill by relettering or renumbering any nonconsecutive Part letter or section
 39 number to read consecutively.

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SUMMARY

The amendment creates the Homeless Student Assistance Program and the Homeless Student Assistance Program Fund within the Maine State Housing Authority. It requires the Maine State Housing Authority to work with a local educational agency liaison for children and youth experiencing homelessness to assist eligible students and families to access housing assistance programs. The amendment also provides funding of \$1,000,000 each year of the next biennium.

FISCAL NOTE REQUIRED

(See attached)