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Date: (Filing No. H-)

HOUSING

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**STATE OF MAINE
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
131ST LEGISLATURE
FIRST SPECIAL SESSION**

COMMITTEE AMENDMENT “ ” to H.P. 1176, L.D. 1844, “An Act to Support Emergency Housing Facility Construction, Renovation and Acquisition Statewide by Creating a Matching Grant Program”

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

'An Act to Support Emergency Housing Construction and Renovation Statewide by Creating a Matching Grant Program'

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

'Sec. 1. 30-A MRSA §4766 is enacted to read:

§4766. Emergency Housing Matching Grant Program

1. Program established. The Emergency Housing Matching Grant Program, referred to in this section as "the program," is established within the Maine State Housing Authority.

2. Purpose. The purpose of the program is to provide grants to qualified providers of emergency housing and shelter services for the construction, renovation or acquisition of a new or existing building to provide emergency housing and shelter services. Grant funds may also be used to cover the costs to lease a building to provide emergency housing and shelter services.

3. Program requirements. The Maine State Housing Authority shall establish program requirements, including, but not limited to, requiring that an applicant to the program:

A. Meet the eligibility requirements of existing programs within the Maine State Housing Authority that provide funding to reimburse shelter operators that provide emergency shelter services at a fixed location;

B. Provide emergency housing and housing navigation services 24 hours per day, 7 days per week in the building that is constructed, acquired, renovated or leased using grant funds; and

COMMITTEE AMENDMENT

1 C. Demonstrate that the applicant has secured funding from a source other than state
 2 funding to match the amount of the grant request on a one-to-one basis.

3 Rules adopted pursuant to this subsection are routine technical rules as defined in Title 5,
 4 chapter 375, subchapter 2-A.

5 **4. Request for proposals; amount of grant.** The Maine State Housing Authority shall
 6 issue a request for proposals to award grants under the program no later than January 1st
 7 of the year in which a grant will be issued and shall provide grants on an annual basis.
 8 When scoring requests for proposals, the Maine State Housing Authority shall award points
 9 favorably to applicants that propose to provide emergency housing and shelter services in
 10 geographic areas that are underserved and where the provision of those services could result
 11 in reducing the demand for emergency housing and shelter services in cities and towns in
 12 this State that serve as hubs for services for persons experiencing homelessness and in need
 13 of emergency shelter or that have a population of persons experiencing homelessness
 14 disproportionate to the housed population of the city or town. The maximum grant awarded
 15 to an applicant is \$500,000.

16 **5. Fund.** The Emergency Housing Matching Grant Program Fund, referred to in this
 17 subsection as "the fund," is established within the Maine State Housing Authority to fund
 18 grants under the program. The fund may receive money from appropriations, allocations,
 19 donations and other sources, public and private. The fund is interest-bearing, and interest
 20 earned by the fund is credited to the fund. Money in the fund does not lapse and carries
 21 over to the next fiscal year.

22 **Sec. 2. Request for proposals.** No later than January 1, 2024, the Maine State
 23 Housing Authority shall issue a request for proposals for grants under the Emergency
 24 Housing Matching Grant Program under the Maine Revised Statutes, Title 30-A, section
 25 4766, for the 2024 grant year under the program.

26 **Sec. 3. Appropriations and allocations.** The following appropriations and
 27 allocations are made.

28 **HOUSING AUTHORITY, MAINE STATE**

29 **Emergency Housing Matching Grant Program Fund N430**

30 Initiative: Provides ongoing appropriations for grants to homeless service providers to
 31 construct, renovate or acquire new or existing buildings to house the homeless services.

32 GENERAL FUND	2023-24	2024-25
33 All Other	\$5,000,000	\$5,000,000
34		
35 GENERAL FUND TOTAL	\$5,000,000	\$5,000,000

36 **Emergency Housing Matching Grant Program Fund N430**

37 Initiative: Establishes ongoing base allocations to allow for the expenditure of funds if
 38 money is received from donations and other public or private sources.

39 OTHER SPECIAL REVENUE FUNDS	2023-24	2024-25
40 All Other	\$500	\$500
41		
42 OTHER SPECIAL REVENUE FUNDS TOTAL	\$500	\$500

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HOUSING AUTHORITY, MAINE STATE		
DEPARTMENT TOTALS	2023-24	2024-25
GENERAL FUND	\$5,000,000	\$5,000,000
OTHER SPECIAL REVENUE FUNDS	\$500	\$500
DEPARTMENT TOTAL - ALL FUNDS	\$5,000,500	\$5,000,500

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

SUMMARY

This amendment replaces the bill and directs the Maine State Housing Authority to establish the Emergency Housing Matching Grant Program to provide grants to service providers to construct, acquire, renovate or lease buildings in order to provide emergency housing and shelter services. Applicants must meet eligibility requirements to demonstrate that they can provide an appropriate level of services and provide funding from a source other than state funding to match the amount of the grant request on a one-to-one basis. When considering requests for proposals, the Maine State Housing Authority is required to award favorable points to proposals from applicants that will provide services in underserved areas and potentially reduce demand for emergency housing and shelter services in hubs for services. The amendment sets the maximum grant at \$500,000 and provides ongoing funding to the Maine State Housing Authority in the amount of \$5,000,000 per fiscal year.

FISCAL NOTE REQUIRED
(See attached)