

Date:

(Filing No. H- )

## HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES

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

COMMITTEE AMENDMENT “ ” to H.P. 1305, L.D. 1946, “An Act to Clarify the Eligibility of Certified Recovery Residences for Bridging Rental Assistance Program Housing Vouchers”

Amend the bill in section 1 in §3012 in the headnote (page 1, line 3 in L.D.) by striking out the following: "**Certified**" and inserting the following: "**Residents of certified**"

Amend the bill in section 1 in §3012 in the headnote (page 1, line 3 in L.D.) by striking out the following: "**eligible for Bridging Rental Assistance Program**"

Amend the bill in section 1 in §3012 by striking out all of subsections 2 and 3 (page 1, lines 10 to 18 in L.D.) and inserting the following:

**2. Eligibility of residents.** An individual residing in a certified recovery residence is eligible to apply for a program housing voucher to be used upon the individual's departure from the certified recovery residence, as long as the individual meets all applicable standards and conditions established by the department for the program. Residency in a certified recovery residence may not be construed as a barrier to application or receipt of such a voucher. This section does not authorize individuals to use program housing vouchers to subsidize the cost of residing at a certified recovery residence.'

Amend the bill in section 1 in §3012 in subsection 5 in the 2nd line (page 1, line 24 in L.D.) by inserting after the following: "section." the following: "In adopting rules, the department shall ensure that individuals being released from institutions, individuals being released from incarceration and homeless individuals have priority over individuals residing in certified recovery residences in the award of program housing vouchers."

Amend the bill in section 1 in §3012 by renumbering the subsections to read consecutively.

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

**SUMMARY**

This amendment clarifies that individuals residing in certified recovery residences may apply for Bridging Rental Assistance Program housing vouchers, but may not use those vouchers to subsidize the costs of residing at a recovery residence. It directs the Department of Health and Human Services, in adopting rules, to ensure that individuals being released from institutions, individuals being released from incarceration and homeless individuals have priority over individuals residing in recovery residences in the award of program housing vouchers.

**FISCAL NOTE REQUIRED**

**(See attached)**