

## 131st MAINE LEGISLATURE

## FIRST REGULAR SESSION-2023

**Legislative Document** 

No. 107

H.P. 75

House of Representatives, January 9, 2023

**An Act Regarding Municipal Efforts to Avert Evictions and Heating Shut-offs During Winter** 

(EMERGENCY)

Reference to the Committee on State and Local Government suggested and ordered printed.

ROBERT B. HUNT Clerk

R(+ B. Hunt

Presented by Representative ANKELES of Brunswick.

1 **Emergency preamble.** Whereas, acts and resolves of the Legislature do not 2 become effective until 90 days after adjournment unless enacted as emergencies; and 3 Whereas, some municipal budgets are strained by efforts to prevent the residents of 4 the municipality from losing heat or housing this winter; and 5 Whereas, this Act provides immediate relief to those municipalities; and 6 Whereas, in the judgment of the Legislature, these facts create an emergency within 7 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, 8 9 therefore, 10 Be it enacted by the People of the State of Maine as follows: Sec. 1. Reimbursement for eviction and heating shut-off assistance. The State 11 shall reimburse a municipality for the full amount of money spent by that municipality from 12 13 December 1, 2022 to March 31, 2023 for programs to prevent eviction of that municipality's residents or heating shut-off by utility companies serving that municipality's residents. The 14 State shall reimburse the municipality before the end of fiscal year 2022-23. 15 16 **Emergency clause.** In view of the emergency cited in the preamble, this legislation takes effect when approved. 17 **SUMMARY** 18 19 This bill requires the State to reimburse by the end of fiscal year 2022-23 a municipality 20 for money spent by that municipality from December 1, 2022 to March 31, 2023 for programs to prevent eviction of that municipality's residents or heating shut-off by utility 21 22 companies serving that municipality's residents.