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Date: (Filing No. S-)

TAXATION

Reproduced and distributed under the direction of the Secretary of the Senate.

**STATE OF MAINE
SENATE
130TH LEGISLATURE
SECOND REGULAR SESSION**

COMMITTEE AMENDMENT “ ” to S.P. 455, L.D. 1406, “An Act To Encourage Relocation to Rural Maine”

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

'An Act To Encourage the Relocation of Persons from outside the State to Rural Maine'

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

'Sec. 1. 5 MRSA §13056-J is enacted to read:

§13056-J. Rural broadband assistance grant program

The department shall establish a program under which a regional community and economic development organization, as described in section 13072, subsection 2, that serves an area located in a rural region of the State may provide a grant to cover the cost of obtaining broadband services for up to 5 years to an individual who has moved to a rural region of the State served by the regional community and economic development organization from a location outside of the State within the 12 months preceding the date of application for the grant. A grant made under this section may not exceed \$1,000 per year. For the purposes of this section, "rural region of the State" has the same meaning as in section 13056-I. The department may establish routine technical rules pursuant to chapter 375, subchapter 2-A to implement this section.

Sec. 2. Appropriations and allocations. The following appropriations and allocations are made.

**ECONOMIC AND COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT, DEPARTMENT OF
Business Development 0585**

Initiative: Provides ongoing funds to regional community and economic development organizations serving rural regions of the State for the purpose of providing grants to

COMMITTEE AMENDMENT

1 individuals who have moved to a rural region of the State from outside the State to cover
2 the cost of obtaining broadband services in a rural area.

3	GENERAL FUND	2021-22	2022-23
4	All Other	\$0	\$100,000
5			
6	GENERAL FUND TOTAL	<u>\$0</u>	<u>\$100,000</u>

7

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

10

SUMMARY

11 This amendment replaces the bill. The amendment requires the Department of
12 Economic and Community Development to establish a program under which a regional
13 community and economic development organization that serves an area located in a rural
14 region of the State, Aroostook, Piscataquis, Somerset and Washington counties, may
15 provide a grant to cover the cost of obtaining broadband services for up to 5 years to an
16 individual who has moved to a rural region of the State served by the regional community
17 and economic development organization from a location outside of the State within the 12
18 months preceding application for the grant. A grant made under this program may not
19 exceed \$1,000 per year.

20

FISCAL NOTE REQUIRED

21

(See attached)