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Date: (Filing No. S-)

CRIMINAL JUSTICE AND PUBLIC SAFETY

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

COMMITTEE AMENDMENT “ ” to S.P. 660, L.D. 1861, “An Act To Establish the Safe Homes Program”

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

'Sec. 2. 25 MRSA Pt. 15 is enacted to read:

PART 15

SAFE HOMES

CHAPTER 801

SAFE HOMES PROGRAM

§7001. Safe Homes Program

1. Definitions. As used in this section, unless the context otherwise indicates, the following terms have the following meanings.

- A. "Dangerous weapon" has the same meaning as in Title 17-A, section 2, subsection 9, paragraph C.
- B. "Department" means the Department of Public Safety.
- C. "Designated groups" means law enforcement agencies and associations, public schools, public preschool programs, foster homes, hospitals or other facilities in which newborns are delivered, veterans' programs and members of the public.
- D. "Firearm" has the same meaning as in Title 17-A, section 2, subsection 12-A.
- E. "Foster home" means a family foster home as defined in Title 22, section 8101, subsection 3.

COMMITTEE AMENDMENT

1 F. "Prescription drug" has the same meaning as in Title 22, section 8731, subsection
2 3-A.

3 G. "Public preschool program" has the same meaning as in Title 20-A, section 1,
4 subsection 23-A.

5 H. "Public school" has the same meaning as in Title 20-A, section 1, subsection 24.

6 I. "Safety device" means a device designed to secure a firearm, a dangerous weapon
7 or prescription drugs, including but not limited to a firearms safety device, safe, lock
8 or lockbox designed for securing firearms, dangerous weapons or prescription drugs.

9 **2. Program established.** The Safe Homes Program is established and is administered
10 by the department to support the safe storage of prescription drugs, firearms and dangerous
11 weapons in homes or public spaces by providing grants for purchasing safety devices in
12 accordance with this section.

13 **3. Grants.** The Safe Homes Program, established under subsection 2, must provide
14 grants to fund the purchase of safety devices.

15 A. Grants may be provided under this subsection to designated groups and nonprofit
16 and community organizations serving designated groups.

17 B. The department shall administer the provision of grants pursuant to this subsection
18 through an agreement with a statewide law enforcement association.

19 C. The department shall adopt rules to implement this subsection. The rules must
20 include procedures for assisting applicants with the following: the application process;
21 accepting applications; approving and disapproving applications; distributing funding,
22 coupons or vouchers to successful applicants; and expenditures of funds. Rules
23 adopted pursuant to this paragraph are routine technical rules as defined in Title 5,
24 chapter 375, subchapter 2-A.

25 **4. Safe Homes Program Fund.** The Safe Homes Program Fund is established as a
26 nonlapsing fund to provide funding to achieve the purposes of this section. The fund
27 consists of any funds received from private and public sources. The fund must be held
28 separate and apart from all other money, funds and accounts. Any balance remaining in
29 the fund at the end of any fiscal year must be carried forward to the next fiscal year. A
30 small portion of the funding may be used by the department to fund administration of the
31 grant program.'

32 Amend the bill by inserting after section 2 the following:

33 **'Sec. 3. Report.** By January 1, 2023 the Commissioner of Public Safety shall report
34 to the joint standing committee of the Legislature having jurisdiction over criminal justice
35 and public safety matters on plans for an education program to implement the Safe Homes
36 Program established pursuant to the Maine Revised Statutes, Title 25, section 7001 and
37 Safe Homes Awareness Month established by Title 1, section 150-R.

38 **Sec. 4. Appropriations and allocations.** The following appropriations and
39 allocations are made.

40 **PUBLIC SAFETY, DEPARTMENT OF**
41 **Safe Homes Program Fund N949**

1 Initiative: Establishes the Safe Homes Program Fund to provide grants for purchasing
 2 safety devices for the safe storage of prescription drugs, firearms and dangerous weapons
 3 in homes or public spaces.

4	FEDERAL EXPENDITURES FUND	2021-22	2022-23
5	All Other	\$0	\$500
6			
7	FEDERAL EXPENDITURES FUND TOTAL	_____ \$0	_____ \$500

9	OTHER SPECIAL REVENUE FUNDS	2021-22	2022-23
10	All Other	\$0	\$500
11			
12	OTHER SPECIAL REVENUE FUNDS TOTAL	_____ \$0	_____ \$500

13
 14 Amend the bill by relettering or renumbering any nonconsecutive Part letter or section
 15 number to read consecutively.

16 **SUMMARY**

17 This amendment removes the requirement to provide educational information and
 18 materials and limits the grant program to providing grants for purchasing safety devices.
 19 The amendment removes the requirements to maintain a list of resources and programs that
 20 support the purposes of the Safe Homes Program. The amendment requires the
 21 Commissioner of Public Safety to report to the joint standing committee of the Legislature
 22 having jurisdiction over criminal justice and public safety matters by January 1, 2023 on
 23 plans for an education program to implement the Safe Homes Program and Safe Homes
 24 Awareness Month. The amendment also adds an appropriations and allocations section.

25 **FISCAL NOTE REQUIRED**

26 **(See attached)**