

PLEASE NOTE: Legislative Information **cannot** perform research, provide legal advice, or interpret Maine law. For legal assistance, please contact a qualified attorney.

Amend the bill by inserting after the enacting clause and before section 1 the following:

‘**Sec. 1. 5 MRSA §1585, sub-§1**, as amended by PL 1999, c. 731, Pt. BB, §1, is further amended to read:

1. Transfer procedures. Any balance of any appropriation or subdivision of an appropriation made by the Legislature for any state department or agency, which at any time may not be required for the purpose named in such appropriations or subdivision, may be transferred at any time prior to the closing of the books to any other appropriation or subdivision of an appropriation made by the Legislature for the use of the same department or agency for the same fiscal year subject to review by the joint standing committee of the Legislature having jurisdiction over appropriations and financial affairs. Financial orders describing such transfers must be submitted by the Bureau of the Budget to the Office of Fiscal and Program Review 30 days before the transfer is to be implemented. In case of extraordinary emergency transfers, the 30-day prior submission requirement may be waived by vote of the committee. Positions, or funding for those positions, that are currently funded with federal or other funds may not be transferred by financial order to the General Fund. Financial orders proposing to transfer 4th or 3rd quarter allotments to the 3rd, 2nd or 1st quarters that result from trends that will cause financial commitments to exceed current appropriations or allocations are subject to the provisions of this section. The Department of Health and Human Services is authorized to transfer funds within the TANF program account to the ASPIRE-TANF program account as often as necessary in order to support and assist participants in obtaining or retaining employment during the fiscal year. In making a transfer of TANF program funds to the ASPIRE-TANF program account, the department does not need to submit a financial order to the committee in advance of the transfer. For purposes of this subsection, "TANF" and "ASPIRE-TANF program" have the same meaning as in Title 22, section 3762, subsection 1, paragraph E and Title 22, section 3781-A, subsection 1, respectively.

Amend the bill in section 5 in subsection 8 by inserting after paragraph D the following:

‘E. Beginning October 1, 2011, the department shall establish maximum rates for child care that are at least equal to the 75th percentile of local market rates for various categories of child care and higher rates for children with special needs.

Amend the bill by striking out all of sections 6 and 11.

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

SUMMARY

This amendment authorizes the Department of Health and Human Services to make certain transfers of funds to the ASPIRE-TANF program account from the TANF program account. It requires the department to establish maximum rates for child care beginning October 1, 2011. The amendment deletes

sections of the bill regarding fund transfers and authorization to decrease maximum income eligibility for transitional child care services.