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Date: (Filing No. H-)

HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES

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**STATE OF MAINE
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
131ST LEGISLATURE
FIRST SPECIAL SESSION**

COMMITTEE AMENDMENT “ ” to H.P. 51, L.D. 81, “An Act to Address Recovery Residence Participation in the Municipal General Assistance Program”

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

Emergency preamble. Whereas, acts and resolves of the Legislature do not become effective until 90 days after adjournment unless enacted as emergencies; and

Whereas, housing security is vital for those in recovery from substance use disorder; and

Whereas, Public Law 2021, chapter 472 ensured access to general assistance benefits for rental payments by prohibiting municipalities from denying an eligible applicant housing assistance for the sole reason that the applicant resides in a recovery residence; and

Whereas, the law lacks clarity regarding who is eligible to receive payments for recovery residence housing assistance from municipal general assistance administrators; and

Whereas, this lack of clarity has resulted in delayed payments, threatening the housing security of individuals in recovery and causing confusion for recovery residence operating managers and property owners; and

Whereas, in the judgment of the Legislature, these facts create an emergency within 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, therefore,'

Amend the bill by adding before the summary the following:

Emergency clause. In view of the emergency cited in the preamble, this legislation takes effect when approved.'

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

COMMITTEE AMENDMENT

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SUMMARY

This amendment adds an emergency preamble and emergency clause.