

Date:

(Filing No. H- )

## HOUSING AND ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT

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### STATE OF MAINE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES 132ND LEGISLATURE FIRST SPECIAL SESSION

COMMITTEE AMENDMENT “ ” to H.P. 1007, L.D. 1522, “An Act to Establish the Maine Eviction Prevention Program”

Amend the bill in section 1 in sub-c. 15 in §4994-D in subsection 1 in the first 2 lines (page 1, lines 9 and 10 in L.D.) by striking out the following: “and administer”

Amend the bill in section 1 in sub-c. 15 in §4994-D by striking out all of subsection 2 (page 1, lines 16 to 18 in L.D.) and inserting the following:

**‘2. Rental assistance.** A participant in the program is eligible to receive up to \$800 per month in rental assistance paid directly to the participant's landlord for up to 12 months.’

Amend the bill in section 1 in sub-c. 15 in §4994-D by inserting after subsection 6 the following:

**‘7. Program administration.** The Maine State Housing Authority shall delegate administration of the program and provide appropriate funding to one or more of the following: a designated community action agency as described by Title 22, section 5324; a municipal housing authority; or any other qualified entity as determined by the Maine State Housing Authority. An entity delegated to administer the program shall develop a method of verifying a participant's eligibility for the rental assistance every 6 months after initial approval. An entity delegated to administer the program shall limit administrative costs of the program to 12% or less of distributions received.

**8. Rules.** The Maine State Housing Authority may adopt rules to implement the provisions of this subchapter. Rules adopted pursuant to this subsection are routine technical rules as defined in Title 5, chapter 375, subchapter 2-A.’

Amend the bill in section 1 in sub-c. 15 in §4994-D by striking out all of the last indented paragraph (page 1, lines 35 to 37 in L.D.).

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

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

**HOUSING AUTHORITY, MAINE STATE**

**Stable Home Fund Z405**

Initiative: Provides additional ongoing funds to continue the Maine Eviction Prevention Program.

<b>GENERAL FUND</b>	<b>2025-26</b>	<b>2026-27</b>
All Other	\$10,000,000	\$10,000,000
<b>GENERAL FUND TOTAL</b>	<b>\$10,000,000</b>	<b>\$10,000,000</b>

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

**SUMMARY**

This amendment, which is the majority report of the committee, requires the Maine State Housing Authority to delegate administration of the Maine Eviction Prevention Program established in the bill and allows, but does not require, the authority to adopt rules to implement the program. The amendment changes the assistance provided under the program to up to \$800 per month paid directly to the participant's landlord for up to 12 months. It also reduces the ongoing appropriation from \$25,000,000 to \$10,000,000 in each fiscal year of the biennium.

**FISCAL NOTE REQUIRED**

**(See attached)**