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Date: (Filing No. S-)

EDUCATION AND CULTURAL AFFAIRS

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**STATE OF MAINE
SENATE
131ST LEGISLATURE
FIRST SPECIAL SESSION**

COMMITTEE AMENDMENT “ ” to S.P. 229, L.D. 512, “An Act to Promote Student Enrollment and Degree Completion in the University of Maine System by Providing Tuition Waivers to Eligible Students”

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

'Sec. 1. 20-A MRSA §10911 is enacted to read:

§10911. Tuition waiver; Federal Pell Grant-eligible in-state students

1. Eligibility. Beginning with the 2023-2024 school year, the University of Maine System shall award a waiver of tuition and fees to an eligible student under this section. An eligible student must:

A. Be enrolled full-time at any University of Maine System campus, not including a student who has transferred into the University of Maine System or who is returning to complete a degree;

B. Complete a Free Application for Federal Student Aid program application and be eligible for a Federal Pell Grant for the academic year for which the applicant seeks a waiver;

C. Be a United States citizen or noncitizen who is eligible for a Federal Pell Grant for the academic year for which the applicant seeks a waiver;

D. Have resided in the State for 12 continuous months before acceptance at the University of Maine System; and

E. Maintain a cumulative 2.00 grade point average in each academic year.

A University of Maine System campus may establish additional eligibility requirements.

2. Waiver amount. The amount of a tuition waiver awarded under this section is limited to the difference between the amount of the full tuition and fees at the University of Maine System campus at which the student is enrolled and the sum of the amount provided by the Federal Pell Grant and the amount of gift aid received by the student from

COMMITTEE AMENDMENT

1 other sources, not including merit-based scholarships awarded to the student by the
2 university system.

3 **3. Funding.** The availability of a tuition waiver under this section is limited to the
4 availability of funds needed to administer the waivers.

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

7 **UNIVERSITY OF MAINE SYSTEM, BOARD OF TRUSTEES OF THE**
8 **Educational and General Activities - UMS 0031**

9 Initiative: Provides ongoing funds for tuition waivers to eligible students who are enrolled
10 full-time at any University of Maine System campus beginning in the 2023-2024 school
11 year.

| | | |
|------------------------|--------------------|--------------------|
| 12 GENERAL FUND | 2023-24 | 2024-25 |
| 13 All Other | \$6,780,330 | \$6,780,330 |
| 14 | | |
| 15 GENERAL FUND TOTAL | <u>\$6,780,330</u> | <u>\$6,780,330</u> |

16 ' .

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

19 **SUMMARY**

20 This amendment, which is the majority report of the committee, replaces the bill. The
21 amendment requires the University of Maine System to award tuition waivers to eligible
22 students who are enrolled full-time at any University of Maine System campus. The
23 amount of the tuition waiver is limited to the difference between the amount of the tuition
24 and fees and the sum of the amount provided by the Federal Pell Grant and the amount of
25 gift aid received by the student, not including merit-based scholarships awarded to the
26 student by the university system. The availability of the tuition waiver is limited to the
27 availability of funding.

28 **FISCAL NOTE REQUIRED**
29 **(See attached)**