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Date: (Filing No. H- )

**LABOR, COMMERCE, RESEARCH AND ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT**

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**STATE OF MAINE  
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES  
127TH LEGISLATURE  
FIRST REGULAR SESSION**

COMMITTEE AMENDMENT “ ” to H.P. 731, L.D. 1062, Bill, “An Act To Support Housing for Homeless Veterans”

Amend the bill in section 1 in §4765 by striking out all of subsections 1 and 2 (page 1, lines 6 to 23 in L.D.) and inserting the following:

**1. Fund established.** The Homeless Veterans Housing Fund, referred to in this section as "the fund," is established. The fund is administered by the Maine State Housing Authority as an interest-bearing, nonlapsing fund. The fund may include appropriations, allocations and credits for inclusion in the fund, grants and gifts from outside sources and interest earned from investments from the fund. The purpose of the fund is to provide housing solely for homeless veterans and the immediate families of homeless veterans. For purposes of this section, "immediate family" includes a spouse, domestic partner, dependent children and primary caregiver.

**2. Fiscal year 2015-16 credited funds from Treasurer of State.** The Maine State Housing Authority shall disburse all funds received from outside sources for the fund and \$1 of funds credited to the fund by the Treasurer of State in fiscal year 2015-16 for every \$3 received from an outside source to a nonprofit volunteer organization planning to construct housing for homeless veterans and their immediate families on the grounds of the United States Department of Veterans Affairs medical center in the Town of Chelsea for the purpose of constructing the housing, as long as prior to the construction of the housing the nonprofit volunteer organization enters into a service agreement with the United States Department of Veterans Affairs that describes the resources and services that both entities will provide to the homeless veterans who will receive housing funded under this section. The service agreement must also include a commitment by the nonprofit volunteer organization to use the utility services provided by the United States Department of Veterans Affairs. The nonprofit volunteer organization may request funds to be disbursed from the fund for the construction of housing for homeless veterans under this subsection on an as-needed basis, as long as the nonprofit volunteer organization enters into a service agreement with each homeless veteran who will receive housing under this section. The service agreement must describe the resources and services that

**COMMITTEE AMENDMENT**

1 will be provided to the homeless veteran by the United States Department of Veterans  
2 Affairs and the nonprofit volunteer organization.

3 **3. Annual report.** Beginning January 15, 2016, a nonprofit volunteer organization  
4 that has constructed housing for homeless veterans under this section shall provide an  
5 annual report on the quality of the housing and services provided to homeless veterans to  
6 the Department of Defense, Veterans and Emergency Management, Bureau of Maine  
7 Veterans' Services and the joint standing committee of the Legislature having jurisdiction  
8 over veterans affairs.'

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

10 'Sec. 3. 37-B MRSA §513-A is enacted to read:

11 **§513-A. Inspection of housing for homeless veterans**

12 The director may conduct quarterly site inspections of the housing constructed for  
13 homeless veterans on the grounds of the United States Department of Veterans Affairs  
14 medical center in the Town of Chelsea pursuant to Title 30-A, chapter 201, subchapter  
15 3-C in order to ensure that the housing has been constructed in accordance with  
16 applicable quality control standards.

17 **Sec. 4. Transfer from fund.** On June 30, 2017, the Maine State Housing  
18 Authority shall transfer from the Homeless Veterans Housing Fund, established in the  
19 Maine Revised Statutes, Title 30-A, section 4765, subsection 1, to the General Fund an  
20 amount equal to the amount credited to the fund by the Treasurer of State in fiscal year  
21 2015-16 that was not matched by funds received from outside sources.

22 **Sec. 5. Appropriations and allocations.** The following appropriations and  
23 allocations are made.

24 **HOUSING AUTHORITY, MAINE STATE**

25 **Homeless Veterans Housing Fund N187**

26 Initiative: Allocates funds to be matched 3-to-1 by outside sources for the construction of  
27 housing for homeless veterans by Volunteers of America on the grounds of the United  
28 States Department of Veterans Affairs medical center in the Town of Chelsea.

29	<b>OTHER SPECIAL REVENUE FUNDS</b>	<b>2015-16</b>	<b>2016-17</b>
30	All Other	\$1,000,000	\$0
31			
32	<b>OTHER SPECIAL REVENUE FUNDS TOTAL</b>	<b>\$1,000,000</b>	<b>\$0</b>
33			

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

36 **SUMMARY**

37 This amendment adds the following provisions to the bill.

