1	L.D. 1885			
2	Date: (Filing No. H- )			
3 4	INNOVATION, DEVELOPMENT, ECONOMIC ADVANCEMENT AND BUSINESS			
5	Reproduced and distributed under the direction of the Clerk of the House.			
6	STATE OF MAINE			
7	HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES			
8	130TH LEGISLATURE			
9	SECOND REGULAR SESSION			
10 11	COMMITTEE AMENDMENT " to H.P. 1395, L.D. 1885, "An Act To Increase Maine's Veterinary Workforce"			
12 13	Amend the bill in section 3 in subsection 1 in the 5th line (page 1, line 19 in L.D.) by striking out the following: "10" and inserting the following: '8'			
14 15 16 17 18	Amend the bill in section 3 in subsection 1 in the 5th line (page 1, line 19 in L.D.) by striking out the following: "40" and inserting the following: '32. At least half, and no fewer than 2, of the annual loans awarded must be awarded to applicants who have demonstrated a likelihood to practice livestock veterinary medicine in the State unless the authority does not receive enough qualified applicants to meet this requirement, in which case the chief executive officer may award the remaining loans to other eligible applicants'			
20 21	Amend the bill in section 5 in subsection 4 in the last line (page 1, line 28 in L.D.) by striking out the following: "\$50,000" and inserting the following: '\$35,000'			
22 23 24	Amend the bill in section 8 in paragraph C in the first line (page 2, line 8 in L.D.) by striking out the following: "or an interest rate benefit" and inserting the following: 'or an interest rate benefit'			
25 26 27	Amend the bill in section 8 in paragraph C in the last line (page 2, line 11 in L.D.) by inserting after the following: "care" the following: ', the location of the veterinarian's practice'			
28 29 30 31 32 33 34	Amend the bill in section 11 in §12124 in the first indented paragraph in the 6th line (page 2, line 40 in L.D.) by inserting after the following: "care." the following: 'In establishing criteria for determining areas of insufficient veterinary services for emergency and critical care and criteria for determining underserved geographic regions, the commissioner shall give priority consideration to regions within Aroostook County, Oxford County, Penobscot County, Piscataquis County, Somerset County and Washington County.'			

Page 1 - 130LR2453(02)

Amend the bill by inserting after section 11 the following:

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'Sec. 12. 20-A MRSA §12125 is enacted to read:

2	§12125. Report by the Finance Authority of Maine			
3 4	1. <b>Report.</b> The authority shall include in its annual report under Title 10, section 974 subsection 1 the following information regarding the program:			
5	A. The number of applications received each year;			
6	B. The number of loans awarded each year;			
7	C. The total amount disbursed through the program;			
8	D. The total amount of loan forgiveness awarded through the program;			
9	E. The total number of veterinary students assisted by loans through the program;			
10	F. The total number of veterinarians awarded loan forgiveness through the program			
11 12	G. The number of current program participants working in a veterinary special related to livestock;			
13 14	H. The number of current program participants working related to emergency and critical care;	ing in a veterin	ary specialty	
15 16	<ul> <li>I. The number of current program participants working i region; and</li> </ul>	n an underserve	d geographic	
17	J. The location of each current program participant's veterinary practice.			
18 19	<b>Sec. 13. Appropriations and allocations.</b> The following appropriations and allocations are made.			
20	FINANCE AUTHORITY OF MAINE			
21	Student Financial Assistance Programs 0653			
22 23 24 25	Initiative: Provides additional ongoing funding for the Maine Veterinary Medicine Loan Program to increase the number of loans awarded annually from 2 to 8, up to an aggregate of 32 and to increase the maximum loan amount available under the program to each participant from \$25,000 to \$35,000 per year for a period of 4 years.			
26	GENERAL FUND	2021-22	2022-23	
27 28	All Other	\$0	\$920,000	
29	GENERAL FUND TOTAL	\$0	\$920,000	
30	1		·	
31 32	Amend the bill by relettering or renumbering any noncon number to read consecutively.	secutive Part let	ter or section	
33	SUMMARY			
34	This amendment does the following:			
35 36 37	1. It requires the Commissioner of Agriculture, Conservation and Forestry to giv priority consideration to regions within Aroostook County, Oxford County, Penobsco County, Piscataquis County, Somerset County and Washington County when determining			

Page 2 - 130LR2453(02)

1 2	regions of the State identified as having insufficient veterinary services related to emergency and critical care and when determining regions of the State that are underserved;
3 4 5 6 7 8	2. It reduces the maximum number of loans awarded annually from 10, as in the bill, to 8 and requires that at least half, but no fewer than 2, of those awards go to applicants who have demonstrated a likelihood to practice livestock veterinary medicine. Should there not be enough applicants who demonstrate a likelihood to practice livestock veterinary medicine, the Chief Executive Officer of the Finance Authority of Maine may award the remaining loans to other eligible applicants;
9 10	3. It reduces the maximum annual loan amount from \$50,000 in the bill to \$35,000. Current law provides an annual loan amount of \$25,000;
11 12	4. It requires veterinarians requesting loan forgiveness under the Maine Veterinary Medicine Loan Program to report annually on the location of their practice;
13 14 15	5. It requires the Finance Authority of Maine to include details related to the program in its annual report to the Governor and the Legislature under the Maine Revised Statutes, Title 10, section 974, subsection 1; and
16 17	6. It appropriates an additional \$920,000 annually in order to increase the number and amount of loans awarded each year to the new statutory limits.
18	The amendment also adds an appropriations and allocations section.
19	FISCAL NOTE REQUIRED
20	(See attached)

Page 3 - 130LR2453(02)