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HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES

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**STATE OF MAINE
SENATE
127TH LEGISLATURE
FIRST REGULAR SESSION**

COMMITTEE AMENDMENT “ ” to S.P. 137, L.D. 369, Bill, “An Act To Align Municipal General Assistance Programs with the Immigration Status Policies of the Department of Health and Human Services ”

Amend the bill by striking out the title and substituting the following:

'An Act To Clarify the Immigration Status of Noncitizens Eligible for General Assistance'

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

'Sec. 1. 22 MRSA §4301, sub-§3, as amended by PL 2013, c. 368, Pt. OO, §4, is further amended to read:

3. Eligible person. "Eligible person" means a person who is qualified to receive general assistance from a municipality according to standards of eligibility determined by the municipal officers whether or not that person has applied for general assistance. "Eligible person" does not include a person who is a fugitive from justice as defined in Title 15, section 201, subsection 4. In accordance with 8 United States Code, Section 1621(d), an "eligible person" who is a noncitizen is limited to a person who is lawfully present in the United States or who is pursuing a lawful process to apply for immigration relief.'

SUMMARY

This amendment, which is the majority report of the committee, allows a noncitizen who is lawfully present in the United States or pursuing a lawful process to apply for immigration relief to be eligible for general assistance.

COMMITTEE AMENDMENT