



130th MAINE LEGISLATURE

SECOND REGULAR SESSION-2022

Legislative Document

No. 1966

S.P. 702

In Senate, February 10, 2022

An Act To Facilitate Access to Heating Assistance

(AFTER DEADLINE)

Approved for introduction by a majority of the Legislative Council pursuant to Joint Rule 205.

Reference to the Committee on Labor and Housing suggested and ordered printed.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'D M Grant'.

DAREK M. GRANT
Secretary of the Senate

Presented by Senator CURRY of Waldo.

Cosponsored by Senators: BAILEY of York, BRENNER of Cumberland, DAUGHTRY of Cumberland, HICKMAN of Kennebec, RAFFERTY of York, VITELLI of Sagadahoc.

1 **Be it enacted by the People of the State of Maine as follows:**

2 **Sec. 1. 30-A MRSA §4992, sub-§4**, as enacted by PL 1991, c. 622, Pt. J, §23 and
3 affected by §25, is amended to read:

4 **4. Availability standards.** Standards requiring local program operators and
5 administrators to be available to the general public for a minimum specified period of time
6 each week; ~~and~~

7 **Sec. 2. 30-A MRSA §4992, sub-§5**, as enacted by PL 1991, c. 622, Pt. J, §23 and
8 affected by §25, is amended to read:

9 **5. Expedient provision of assistance standards.** Standards that ensure that
10 qualified program recipients are expeditiously provided with assistance by the local
11 program operator or administrator; ~~and~~

12 **Sec. 3. 30-A MRSA §4992, sub-§6** is enacted to read:

13 **6. Application.** Standards that, beginning no later than the 2022-23 winter season,
14 require local program operators and administrators to accept online applications for the fuel
15 assistance program. Rules adopted pursuant to this subsection are routine technical rules as
16 defined in Title 5, chapter 375, subchapter 2-A.

17 **SUMMARY**

18 This bill requires the Maine State Housing Authority to adopt rules for the
19 administration of its fuel assistance program that require local program operators and
20 administrators to accept online applications for the program beginning no later than the
21 2022-23 winter season.