

125th MAINE LEGISLATURE

FIRST REGULAR SESSION-2011

Legislative Document

No. 962

H.P. 706

House of Representatives, March 8, 2011

An Act To Amend the Medicaid Income Requirements To Promote Agricultural Labor

Reference to the Committee on Health and Human Services suggested and ordered printed.

HEATHER J.R. PRIEST Clerk

Presented by Representative TILTON of Harrington. Cosponsored by Senator GOODALL of Sagadahoc and

Representatives: CRAY of Palmyra, FITTS of Pittsfield, GIFFORD of Lincoln.

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

Sec. 1. 22 MRSA §3174-AA, as amended by PL 2003, c. 451, Pt. XX, §1, is further amended to read:

§3174-AA. Asset limits

Beginning January 1, 2002, in determining eligibility for medical assistance under the Medicaid program for all individuals and families subject to an asset test, the department shall exempt from consideration all assets exempt pursuant to program rule on January 1, 2001 and shall adopt rules to exempt from consideration certain assets in amounts and under terms the department determines to be reasonable and consistent with the purposes of the Medicaid program as provided in this section. Rules adopted pursuant to this section are routine technical rules as defined in Title 5, chapter 375, subchapter H-A 2-A. The rules must provide exemptions for the following assets:

- **1. Second vehicle.** A 2nd vehicle that is necessary for employment, to secure medical treatment or to provide transportation for essential daily activities or a vehicle that has been modified for operation by or the transportation of a person with a disability; and
- **2. Savings.** An amount up to \$8,000 for an individual and up to \$12,000 for a household of more than one person-; and
- 3. Seasonal agricultural and forest products employment. Income derived from seasonal employment in agricultural or forest products activities.

21 SUMMARY

This bill exempts income derived from seasonal agricultural or forest products employment from being counted as income for Medicaid eligibility purposes.