

MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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M A J O R I T Y

L.D. 1950

DATE: 3/30/98

(Filing No. H-1098)

APPROPRIATIONS AND FINANCIAL AFFAIRS

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STATE OF MAINE
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
118TH LEGISLATURE
SECOND REGULAR SESSION

COMMITTEE AMENDMENT "A" to H.P. 1397, L.D. 1950, Bill, "An Act to Make Supplemental Appropriations and Allocations for the Expenditures of State Government and Changes to Certain Provisions of the Law Necessary to the Proper Operations of State Government for the Fiscal Years Ending June 30, 1998 and June 30, 1999"

Amend the bill by striking out everything after the title and before the summary and inserting in its place the following:

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

PART A

Sec. A-1. Supplemental appropriations from the General Fund.

There are appropriated from the General Fund for the fiscal years ending June 30, 1998 and June 30, 1999, to the departments listed, the following sums.

1997-98 1998-99

ADMINISTRATIVE AND FINANCIAL SERVICES, DEPARTMENT OF

Office of the Commissioner - Administrative and Financial Services

Personal Services \$768

Provides for the appropriation of funds to

COMMITTEE AMENDMENT "A" to H.P. 1397, L.D. 1950

correct the omission of a longevity payment from Public Law 1997, chapter 24, Part A. This increase will be offset by the deappropriation of salary savings from within the Bureau of Revenue Services.

Administration - Human Resources

Positions - Legislative Count (-1,000) (-1,000)
Personal Services (21,300) (79,220)

Provides for the deappropriation of funds through the transfer of the Director of Human Resources Administration position from the Bureau of Human Resources to the Bureau of Accounts and Control where the position will be reorganized to supplement the management of bureau projects.

Accounts and Control - Bureau of

Positions - Legislative Count (1,000)
Personal Services 56,500
All Other 6,000
Capital Expenditures 3,500
TOTAL 66,000

Provides for the appropriation of funds for one Financial Management Coordinator position and support costs. This position will provide expertise in GAAP reporting.

Accounts and Control - Bureau of

Positions - Legislative Count (1,000) (1,000)
Personal Services 21,300 79,220

fund. Any balance remaining at the end of each fiscal year may not lapse but must be carried forward to be used for the same purposes.

General Purpose Aid for Local Schools

All Other 16,660,478

Notwithstanding the Maine Revised Statutes, Title 20-A, section 15653, subsection 3 or any other provision of law, provides for the appropriation of funds to increase General Purpose Aid for Local Schools subsidy payments by an additional 3% in fiscal year 1998-99.

DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION

TOTAL 36,660,478

SECTION

TOTAL APPROPRIATIONS 5,521,131 40,073,832

PART T

Sec. T-1. 5 MRSA §1518, as enacted by PL 1997, c. 24, Pt. E, §1, is repealed.

Sec. T-2. 22 MRSA §1546, as enacted by PL 1997, c. 560, Pt. A, §1 and affected by §5, is repealed.

Sec. T-3. 36 MRSA §4365, 2nd ¶, as enacted by PL 1997, c. 560, Pt. A, §2 and affected by §5, is amended to read:

Beginning November 1, 1997, as a public health measure, the tax imposed under this section is 37 mills per cigarette. The tax imposed pursuant to this section is dedicated to the Tobacco Tax Relief Fund established in Title 22, section 1546.

Sec. T-4. 36 MRSA §4365-D, sub-§4, as enacted by PL 1997, c. 560, Pt. A, §3 and affected by §5, is amended to read:

4. Payment. Payment of the tax imposed by this section

must be made to the State Tax Assessor by February 1, 1998, accompanied by forms prescribed by the assessor and must be credited to the Tobacco Tax Relief Fund established in Title 22, section 1546.

Sec. T-5. 36 MRSA §5126, first ¶, as amended by PL 1997, c. 24, Pt. E, §2, is further amended to read:

A resident individual is allowed \$2,100 for each exemption to which the individual is entitled for the taxable year for federal income tax purposes, unless the taxpayer is claimed as a dependent on another return. No additional exemption may be allowed for taxpayers over 65 years of age or blind. The nominal dollar amount of this section is subject to adjustment pursuant to Title 5, section 1518.

Sec. T-6. Tax Relief Fund for Maine Residents; Tobacco Tax Relief Fund; lapsed balances. Notwithstanding any other provisions of law, any unencumbered balance in the Tax Relief Fund for Maine Residents or the Tobacco Tax Relief Fund lapses to the General Fund at the end of fiscal year 1998-99.

Sec. T-7. Effective date. This Part takes effect June 30, 1999.

PART U

Sec. U-1. 5 MRSA §1509-A is enacted to read:

§1509-A. Payment by credit card

State departments and agencies may implement, with the approval of the State Controller, procedures for accepting payment for goods and services by major credit cards. Unless otherwise provided for in law as of the effective date of this section, any administrative expenses or credit card fees incurred in connection with this method of receiving funds must be absorbed within the existing budget of the department or agency as authorized by the Legislature.

PART V

Sec. V-1. PL 1991, c. 121, Pt. A, §7 is repealed.

Sec. V-2. Calculation and transfer. Notwithstanding the Maine Revised Statutes, Title 5, section 1585, the State Budget Officer shall calculate the amounts in section 3 of this Part

2 5. Requires consolidation of certain units at the Bangor
Mental Health Institute; and

4 6. Requires strategic plans related to the Bangor Mental
6 Health Institute.

8 PART O

10 This Part authorizes that General Fund appropriations for
the Welfare to Work program in the Department of Labor are
12 nonlapsing through June 30, 1999.

14 PART P

16 This Part authorizes that funds received by the State from
the Maine State Employees Association as reimbursement for the
18 union related activities of the current president of the
association may be deposited as revenue to the Probation and
20 Parole, Other Special Revenue account in the Department
Corrections and may be used for acting capacity positions for the
22 duration of the term of the current president in the 1998-1999
biennium.

24 PART Q

26 This Part increases the salary grade of the Commissioner of
28 Defense, Veterans and Emergency Management and upgrades the
Director of the Military Bureau to a Deputy Commissioner who
30 serves at the pleasure of the commissioner.

32 PART R

34 This Part reduces the amortization period for the unfunded
actuarial liability of the Maine State Retirement System as of
36 July 1, 1998 from the remaining 30 years of a 35-year period to a
25-year period.

38 PART S

40 This Part transfers, then appropriates, funds from the Tax
42 Relief Fund for Maine Residents and the Tobacco Tax Relief Fund
for a number of purposes.

44 PART T

46 This Part implements the following changes to the Maine
48 Revised Statutes, effective June 30, 1999.

50 It repeals the Tax Relief Fund for Maine Residents.

2 It repeals the Tobacco Tax Relief Fund.

4 It authorizes any unencumbered balance in either fund to
lapse to the General Fund.

6 PART U

8 This Part allows state departments and agencies to accept
10 payment for goods and services by major credit cards.

12 PART V

14 Public Law 1991, chapter 121, Part A, section 7 required
that all state departments, agencies and offices be closed on May
16 10, 1991 and May 24, 1991. All state employees, even those
"essential employees" who were required to work on those days,
18 were not compensated for those days or, for some employees who
worked alternative work schedules, were not compensated for two
20 other days during the affected pay cycles. The law specified
that those state employees were to be compensated for the two
22 "closed" days when they left state service.

24 This Part provides authority for those affected state
employees who remain in state service to be paid for those 2 days
26 in fiscal year 1997-98 rather than when they leave state
service. It provides a General Fund appropriation for the cost
of General Fund employees. It also provides a General Fund
28 appropriation for the cost of Highway Fund employees. Lastly, it
authorizes the State Budget Officer to adjust allotments in
30 accounts in other funding sources so that state employees in
those accounts would be paid as well.

32 PART W

34 This Part adds the Joint Standing Committee on
36 Appropriations and Financial Affairs to the list of the
recipients of the various reports of the Consensus Economic
38 Forecasting Commission.

40 PART X

42 Public Law 1997, chapter 24, Part S, section 1 authorized
44 the use of \$2,100,000 from available balances at the end of
fiscal year 1996-97 to be used to meet the actuarial and
46 accumulated interest costs for 8 school administrative units.

48 Given that additional interest costs continued to accrue
beyond the original date of settlement, that is, July 1, 1997, an
50 additional amount of approximately \$50,000 is needed to settle