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Date: (Filing No. H-)

TAXATION

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**STATE OF MAINE
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
130TH LEGISLATURE
SECOND REGULAR SESSION**

COMMITTEE AMENDMENT “ ” to H.P. 873, L.D. 1195, “An Act To Increase Funding to Qualifying Municipalities by Sharing Adult Use Marijuana Sales and Excise Tax Revenue”

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

'An Act To Assist Qualifying Municipalities To Defray the Costs of Opting In To Permit Adult Use Marijuana Establishments'

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

'Sec. 1. 28-B MRSA §108, as amended by PL 2021, c. 226, §3, is further amended to read:

§108. Public health and safety programs

The department shall develop and implement or facilitate the development and implementation by a public or private entity of: programs, initiatives and campaigns focused on increasing the awareness and education of the public on health and safety matters and focused on addressing public and behavioral health needs relating to the use of marijuana and marijuana products, including, but not limited to, programs, initiatives and campaigns focused on preventing and deterring the use of marijuana and marijuana products by persons under 21 years of age; and public and behavioral health programs and services related to the use of marijuana and marijuana products, including, but not limited to, evidence-based substance use disorder prevention and treatment programs, early intervention services and grants for schools or community-based organizations that provide programs for youth substance use disorder education and prevention as described under Title 5, chapter 521. Programs, initiatives and campaigns developed and implemented pursuant to this section may be funded with revenue from the Adult Use Marijuana Public Health and Safety and Municipal Opt-in Fund established in section 1101. The department may adopt rules to implement this section.

COMMITTEE AMENDMENT

1 D. Interest earned or other investment income on balances in the fund.

2 **2. Uses of fund.** Money credited to the fund pursuant to subsection 1 may be used by
3 the department as provided in this subsection.

4 A. ~~No more than 50% of all money~~ Money credited to the fund may be expended by
5 the department to fund public health and safety awareness and education programs,
6 initiatives, campaigns and activities relating to the sale and use of adult use marijuana
7 and adult use marijuana products conducted in accordance with section 108 by the
8 department, another state agency or department or any other public or private entity.

9 B. ~~No more than 50% of all money~~ Money credited to the fund may be expended by
10 the department to fund enhanced law enforcement training programs relating to the sale
11 and use of adult use marijuana and adult use marijuana products for local, county and
12 state law enforcement officers conducted in accordance with section 109 by the
13 department, the Maine Criminal Justice Academy, another state agency or department
14 or any other public or private entity.

15 C. Money credited to the fund may be expended by the department to provide
16 reimbursement to a qualifying municipality for qualifying expenses incurred as a result
17 of the municipality's efforts to opt in to permit the operation of some or all adult use
18 marijuana establishments within the municipality in accordance with subchapter 4. For
19 the purposes of this paragraph, "qualifying municipality" means a municipality that
20 opts in to permit the operation of adult use marijuana establishments within the
21 municipality on or after July 1, 2022 in accordance with subchapter 4 or a municipality
22 that opted to permit within the municipality the operation of cultivation facilities,
23 products manufacturing facilities or testing facilities, but not marijuana stores, prior to
24 July 1, 2022. For the purposes of this paragraph, "qualifying expenses" means legal
25 fees and costs associated with the drafting and adoption of a warrant article or the
26 adoption or amendment of an ordinance, including the conduct of a town meeting or
27 election, incurred on or after July 1, 2022 by a qualifying municipality that opts in on
28 or after July 1, 2022 to permit the operation of some or all marijuana establishments
29 within the municipality and legal fees and costs associated with the drafting and
30 adoption of a warrant article or the adoption or amendment of an ordinance to permit
31 the operation of marijuana stores within a municipality that opted to permit within the
32 municipality the operation of cultivation facilities, products manufacturing facilities or
33 testing facilities, but not marijuana stores, prior to July 1, 2022. Each qualifying
34 municipality may receive funds, not to exceed \$20,000, only once for the
35 reimbursement of qualifying expenses in accordance with this paragraph. Nothing in
36 this paragraph may be construed to require the department to reimburse qualifying
37 expenses incurred by a qualifying municipality if the department determines there are
38 insufficient funds available to provide reimbursement. Under no circumstances may a
39 qualifying municipality submit an initial application for the reimbursement of
40 qualifying expenses more than 3 years after the qualifying municipality adopts a
41 warrant article or adopts or amends an ordinance to allow for the operation of some or
42 all adult use marijuana establishments within the municipality. The department may
43 adopt rules to implement and administer the reimbursement of qualifying expenses to
44 qualifying municipalities. Rules adopted pursuant to this paragraph are routine
45 technical rules as defined in Title 5, chapter 375, subchapter 2-A. The department may
46 not reimburse qualifying expenses under this paragraph accrued after July 1, 2027.

