

MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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117th MAINE LEGISLATURE

FIRST REGULAR SESSION-1995

Legislative Document

No. 269

H.P. 210

House of Representatives, January 27, 1995

An Act to Increase the Revenue from Off-track Betting.

Reference to the Committee on Taxation suggested and ordered printed.

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Joseph W. Mayo".

JOSEPH W. MAYO, Clerk

Presented by Representative RICHARDSON of Portland.
Cosponsored by Representatives: GREEN of Monmouth, HATCH of Skowhegan.

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

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Sec. 1. 36 MRSA c. 720 is enacted to read:

CHAPTER 720

OFF-TRACK BETTING WINNINGS TAX

§4901. Tax imposed

In addition to any other tax imposed by this Title, a tax is imposed at the rate of 6% on all winnings on wagers made at an off-track betting parlor in this State. The licensee of the parlor at which the wager is made is responsible for collecting and submitting the tax to the Treasurer of State. The licensee shall submit the tax collected to the Treasurer of State each month not later than 15 days after the end of the month in which the tax is collected.

§4902. Deposit of tax revenue

The Treasurer of State shall deposit 1/3 of the revenue collected under section 4901 in the General Fund and the remainder in the Off-track Betting Oversight Fund created in section 4903.

§4903. Fund created

The Off-track Betting Oversight Fund is created to assist municipal and county officials in paying the expenses of overseeing and regulating off-track betting parlors. The fund consists of tax revenue deposited pursuant to section 4902 and any appropriations or donations made to the fund.

§4904. Distribution of fund

On a quarterly basis, the Treasurer of State shall distribute 1/2 of the balance of the Off-track Betting Oversight Fund to municipalities in which off-track betting parlors are located and 1/2 to counties in which off-track betting parlors are located. The amount payable to municipalities must be divided by the number of off-track betting parlors that are licensed and operating in the State on the date of distribution to determine the share attributable to each off-track betting parlor. That share must be distributed to the municipality in which the parlor is located. Amounts payable to the counties must be divided and distributed in the same manner.

STATEMENT OF FACT

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This bill imposes a tax on the winnings of persons who place bets at off-track betting parlors in this State. One-third of the tax revenue will be deposited in the General Fund, 1/3 will be distributed among the counties in which off-track betting parlors are located, and 1/3 will be distributed to the municipalities in which off-track betting parlors are located. The amounts will be distributed to the location of each parlor, which may result in certain counties and municipalities receiving more than one share of the fund.