MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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132nd MAINE LEGISLATURE

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Legislative Document

No. 856

H.P. 542

House of Representatives, March 4, 2025

An Act to Phase Out the Income Tax

Reference to the Committee on Taxation suggested and ordered printed.

ROBERT B. HUNT
Clerk

Presented by Representative BOYER of Poland.

Cosponsored by Representatives: CHAPMAN of Auburn, DUCHARME of Madison, FAULKINGHAM of Winter Harbor, FLYNN of Albion, FREDETTE of Newport, WADSWORTH of Hiram, Senators: BERNARD of Aroostook, TIMBERLAKE of Androscoggin.

1	Be it enacted by the People of the State o	f Maine as follows:							
2 3	Sec. 1. 36 MRSA §5111, sub-§1-F, as enacted by PL 2015, c. 267, Pt. DD, §3, is amended to read:								
4 5 6 7	1-F. Single individuals and married persons filing separate returns; tax years beginning 2017 from 2017 to 2029. For tax years beginning on or after January 1, 2017 but not later than December 31, 2029, for single individuals and married persons filing separate returns:								
8 9 10 11 12 13	If Maine taxable income is: Less than \$21,050 At least \$21,050 but less than \$50,000 \$50,000 or more	The tax is: 5.8% of the Maine taxable income \$1,221 plus 6.75% of the excess over \$21,050 \$3,175 plus 7.15% of the excess over \$50,000							
14 15	Sec. 2. 36 MRSA §5111, sub-§2-F, as enacted by PL 2015, c. 267, Pt. DD, §5, is amended to read:								
16 17 18	2-F. Heads of households; tax years beginning 2017 from 2017 to 2029. For tax years beginning on or after January 1, 2017 but not later than December 31, 2029, for unmarried individuals or legally separated individuals who qualify as heads of households:								
19 20 21 22 23	If Maine taxable income is: Less than \$31,550 At least \$31,550 but less than \$75,000 \$75,000 or more	The tax is: 5.8% of the Maine taxable income \$1,830 plus 6.75% of the excess over \$31,550 \$4,763 plus 7.15% of the excess over							
242526	\$75,000 Sec. 3. 36 MRSA §5111, sub-§3-F, as enacted by PL 2015, c. 267, Pt. DD, §7, is amended to read:								
27 28 29 30	3-F. Individuals filing married joint returns or surviving spouses; tax years beginning 2017 from 2017 to 2029. For tax years beginning on or after January 1, 2017 but not later than December 31, 2029, for individuals filing married joint returns or surviving spouses permitted to file a joint return:								
31 32 33 34 35 36	If Maine taxable income is: Less than \$42,100 At least \$42,100 but less than \$100,000 \$100,000 or more	The tax is: 5.8% of the Maine taxable income \$2,442 plus 6.75% of the excess over \$42,100 \$6,350 plus 7.15% of the excess over \$100,000							
37	Sec. 4. 36 MRSA §5111, sub-§7 is enacted to read:								
38 39 40	7. Phase-out. For tax years beginning on or after January 1, 2026, for each taxpayer filing an income tax return under this chapter, the amount of tax calculated under subsection 1-F, 2-F or 3-F, as adjusted under section 5403, is reduced as follows.								
41	A. For a tax year beginning in 2026, the amount of tax calculated is multiplied by 80%.								
42	B. For a tax year beginning in 2027, the amount of tax calculated is multiplied by 60%.								

2 D. For a tax year beginning in 2029, the amount of tax calculated is multiplied by 20%. 3 Sec. 5. 36 MRSA §5111, sub-§8 is enacted to read: 4 8. Income tax eliminated. Beginning January 1, 2030, no taxes are imposed under 5 this section. 6 Sec. 6. 36 MRSA §5200, sub-§1-A, as enacted by PL 2017, c. 474, Pt. E, §2, is 7 amended to read: 8 1-A. Imposition and rate of tax beginning 2018 from 2017 to 2029. For tax years 9 beginning on or after January 1, 2018 but not later than December 31, 2029, a tax is 10 imposed for each taxable year at the following rates on each taxable corporation and on each group of corporations that derives income from a unitary business carried on by 2 or 11 12 more members of an affiliated group: 13 If the income is: The tax is: 14 Not over \$350,000 3.5% of the income 15 \$350,000 but not over \$1,050,000 \$12,250 plus 7.93% of the excess over 16 \$350,000 17 \$1,050,000 but not over \$3,500,000 \$67,760 plus 8.33% of the excess over 18 \$1,050,000 \$271,845 plus 8.93% of the excess 19 \$3,500,000 or more 20 over \$3,500,000 21 In the case of an affiliated group of corporations engaged in a unitary business with activity 22 taxable only by Maine, the rates provided in this subsection are applied only to the first 23 \$3,500,000 of the Maine net income of the entire group and must be apportioned equally 24 among the taxable corporations unless those taxable corporations jointly elect a different 25 apportionment. The balance of the Maine net income of the entire group is taxed at 8.93%. In the case of an affiliated group of corporations engaged in a unitary business with activity 26 27 taxable both within and without this State, the rates provided in this subsection are applied 28 only to the first \$3,500,000 of the net income of the entire group and must be apportioned 29 equally among the taxable corporations unless those taxable corporations jointly elect a 30 different apportionment. The balance of the net income of the entire group is taxed at 8.93%. 31 32 **Sec. 7. 36 MRSA §5200, sub-§7** is enacted to read: 33 7. Phase-out. For tax years beginning on or after January 1, 2026 and ending before 34 January 1, 2030, for each taxpayer filing an income tax return under this chapter, the amount of tax calculated under subsection 1-A is reduced as follows. 35 36 A. For a tax year beginning in 2026, the amount of tax calculated is multiplied by 80%. 37 B. For a tax year beginning in 2027, the amount of tax calculated is multiplied by 60%. 38 C. For a tax year beginning in 2028, the amount of tax calculated is multiplied by 40%. 39 D. For a tax year beginning in 2029, the amount of tax calculated is multiplied by 20%.

C. For a tax year beginning in 2028, the amount of tax calculated is multiplied by 40%.

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Sec. 8. 36 MRSA §5200, sub-§8 is enacted to read:

8. Income tax eliminated.	Beginning	January	1,	2030,	no	taxes	are	impo	sed	under
this section.		•						-		

- **Sec. 9. Spending reductions.** Beginning with fiscal year 2026-27, the Department of Administrative and Financial Services, Bureau of the Budget shall reduce the budget each fiscal year for each department of State Government proportionally to achieve an overall reduction in expenditures equal to the reduction of revenue under the Maine Revised Statutes, Title 36, section 5111, subsections 7 and 8 and section 5200, subsections 7 and 8.
- **Sec. 10.** Corrective legislation. By January 1, 2029, the Department of Administrative and Financial Services, Bureau of Revenue Services shall submit legislation to the joint standing committee of the Legislature having jurisdiction over taxation matters that corrects any conflicts in the Maine Revised Statutes resulting from the repeal of the individual and corporate income tax as proposed in Title 36, section 5111, subsections 7 and 8 and section 5200, subsections 7 and 8. The joint standing committee may report out a bill to the 134th Legislature in 2029 making the necessary changes.

16 SUMMARY

This bill phases out the income tax over 5 years beginning in 2026 and requires that state department budgets be reduced proportionally.