

MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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ACTS AND RESOLVES

AS PASSED BY THE

Eighty-seventh and Eighty-eighth
Legislatures

OF THE

STATE OF MAINE

From April 7, 1935 to April 24, 1937

AND MISCELLANEOUS STATE PAPERS

Published by the Secretary of State, in conjunction
with the Revisor of Statutes in accordance with the
Resolves of the Legislature approved June 28, 1820,
March 18, 1840, March 16, 1842, and Acts approved
August 6, 1930 and April 2, 1931.

KENNEBEC JOURNAL
AUGUSTA, MAINE
1937

PUBLIC LAWS
OF THE
STATE OF MAINE

As Passed by the Eighty-Eighth Legislature

1937

Chapter 1

AN ACT to Amend Section 1 of an Initiated Act Approved by the People at the General Election Held September 14, 1936, Relating to the General Highway Fund, and to Authorize Certain Temporary Use of Said Fund.

Emergency preamble. Whereas, there are from time to time, in the state treasury funds which are segregated and allocated to the general highway fund to an amount in excess of the immediate requirements for which they are appropriated and are to be ultimately expended; and

Whereas, under existing law said highway funds cannot be expended for any purpose either permanently or temporarily, other than for which they are appropriated; and

Whereas, the state is now, and at certain periods in each fiscal year will be, in need of a temporary use of such general highway fund, or part thereof, for other governmental purposes, pending and in anticipation of the receipt of assessments made for other appropriations authorized by law, but due or receivable at later periods in the year; and

Whereas, the legislature cannot, within constitutional limitations, authorize the borrowing at all times of sufficient money to anticipate the receipt of such assessments; and

Whereas, in the judgment of the legislature these facts create an emergency within the meaning of section 16 of Article XXXI of the constitution of Maine and require the following legislation as immediately necessary for the preservation of the public peace, health and safety; now, therefore,

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

CHAP. 1

Initiated act, 1936, § 1, amended. Section 1 of the direct initiated bill entitled "An Act Relating to the Use of the General Highway Fund, and to Prevent Diversion Thereof" approved by the people at the general election held on September 14, 1936, is hereby amended to read as follows:

'Sec. 1. All revenue received by the state from the registration of motor vehicles, and the licensing of operators thereof, from the tax imposed on internal combustion engine fuel, from fines, forfeitures and costs accruing to the state under section 118 of chapter 29 of the revised statutes, as amended, and from permits granted by the state highway commission to open highways, shall be segregated, allocated to and become a part of the general highway fund created and existing by ~~Chapter 257 of the Public Laws of 1931 and Chapter 175 of the Public Laws of 1933~~ the provisions of statute; and after payment and deduction from such fund of such sums as are necessary to meet all provisions of bond issues for state highway and bridge construction, the remainder of such fund shall be apportioned and expended solely for the cost of registering motor vehicles and licensing the operators thereof, for maintenance of the state highway police, for administration of the office and duties of the state highway commission, for administration of the tax on internal combustion engine fuel and payment of rebates on said tax, and for the improvement, construction and maintenance of highways and bridges, and for snow guards or removal as provided by statute. Neither the general highway fund, nor any fund derived from direct taxation imposed for highway construction, bridge construction, or the improvement and maintenance thereof, shall be diverted or expended, ~~either temporarily or permanently, for any other purpose than set forth in this act, except for the establishment of an aeronautical fund as provided by Section 89A of Chapter 12 of the Revised Statutes,~~ permanently for any other purpose than set forth in this act, except that funds so segregated may be used for other appropriations but only those for which anticipated income has not been received and for which financial provision has been made by the legislature and is forthcoming; and the state treasurer is hereby directed and authorized to reimburse the general highway fund by a deposit of the funds received from such aforesaid appropriations, the receipt of which has been anticipated, to the extent of the amounts temporarily diverted therefrom; such deposits to be made as soon as such revenues are collected.'

Emergency clause. In view of the emergency recited in the preamble, this act shall take effect when approved.

Approved February 11, 1937.