

MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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December 18, 1940

Franz V. Burkett, Attorney General

William D. Hayes, State Auditor

In re Payment for Town Audits

My interpretation of Section 101 of Chapter B of the Revised Statutes, is that the State shall advance the money to pay for the expense of the compulsory audit of the accounts of the various cities and towns as provided for in Sections 97 to 108 of said Chapter B as amended, but that after it has made the payments, it shall collect the amount it has paid from the various cities and towns involved.

I assume that the idea was that the towns would not have made any appropriation for the expenditure provided in the original Act, which was passed in 1923, and would, therefore, have no funds to pay for this expense. This Section was not changed when the provisions providing for the compulsory audit were inserted in 1937, and therefore, is in effect and apply to the compulsory audit provision.

I am sorry to have to decide against either of the estimable gentlemen who have left the decision of this question to me, and I hope that the winner will enjoy the tobacco paid by the loser.

Attorney General

FUB:OH
CC to B.S.