

MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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July 15, 1953

To Honorable Burton M. Cross, Governor of Maine
Re: Contingent Account

This office has been asked to give an opinion relative to the legality of the request of the Chamber of Commerce Port Authority, City of Portland, for an allocation of funds from the State Contingent Account.

Under the provisions of Section 24 of Chapter 14, R. S. 1944, as amended, requests may properly be made from the Contingent Account for any one of three purposes:

"Such allocation may be made to meet any expense necessarily incurred under any requirement of law, or for the maintenance of the government within the scope existing at the time of the previous session of the legislature or contemplated by laws enacted thereat, or to pay bills arising out of some emergency requiring an expenditure of money not provided by the legislature."

It can be seen by a reading of the above quoted section of the law that such Contingent Account is reserved for the use of the State and not for municipalities or allied quasi-municipal corporations. It is therefore our opinion that allocations from the Contingent Account may not be made upon the request of the Chamber of Commerce Port Authority of the City of Portland.

Alexander A. LaFleur
Attorney General

Jgf/c