

MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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STATE OF MAINE
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
106TH LEGISLATURE
FIRST SPECIAL SESSION

HOUSE AMENDMENT "A " to H. P. 1739, L. D. 2185, Bill, "AN ACT Relating to Income from the Public Reserved Lands."

Amend said bill by striking out everything after the enacting clause and inserting in place thereof the following:

'Sec. 1. R. S., T. 30, §4163, sub-§1, amended. Subsection 1 of section 4163 of Title 30 of the Revised Statutes, as repealed and replaced by section 15 of chapter 628 and as amended by section 20 of chapter 460, both of the public laws of 1973, is further amended to read as follows:

1. Income. All income received by the Commissioner of the Department of Conservation from the public reserved lands, except income provided for in section 4166, shall be deposited with the Treasurer of State to be credited to the General Fund.

Sec. 2. R. S., T. 30, §4166, amended. The first 7 sentences of section 4166 of Title 30 of the Revised Statutes, as amended, are further amended to read as follows:

There shall continue in existence the Organized Townships Fund which shall include the principal of said fund arising from the public reserved lots prior to ~~the effective date of this Act~~ October 3, 1973 and accrued but unexpended income of said fund as of said date. The State shall allow interest income annually as earned. Said fund shall be held and administered by the Treasurer of State. The income of the Organized Townships Fund shall be added to the principal of the funds, until the inhabitants of such township or tract are incorporated into a municipality, unless previously expended according to law. When any such township or tract is incorporated as a town, said funds belonging to it shall be paid by the Treasurer of State to the treasurer of the

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trustees of the ministerial and school funds therein, to be added to the funds of that corporation and held and managed as other school funds of that town are required to be held and managed. ~~When a township or tract is organized as a plantation, the interest of said fund~~ Notwithstanding the foregoing, any income arising from activities under section 4162, subsection 4, on public reserved lands located in townships or tracts organized into plantations as of March 1, 1974, shall be held by the Treasurer of State in the Organized Townships Fund. The income from that portion of the fund belonging to each such plantation shall be paid annually by the Treasurer of State to the treasurer of such plantation to be applied toward the support of schools according to the number of scholars in each school. Before income of said fund is so distributed to the treasurers of such plantations, an amount representing 10% of the total of such income shall be paid annually to the Commissioner of the Department of Conservation for use in managing and improving the public reserved lots in such organized plantations. Said interest income shall be computed to the first day of each January by the Treasurer of State. The Commissioner of Educational and Cultural Services shall file in the office of the State Controller a list of such plantations with the amount due for interest income for the preceding year according to a record of such amounts to be furnished to him by the Treasurer of State.

Sec. 3. R. S., T. 30, §4167, amended. Section 4167 of Title 30 of the Revised Statutes, as amended, is further amended by adding at the end a new paragraph to read as follows:

The assessors in plantations organized prior to March 1, 1974, shall have final approval over actions taken by the commissioner under section 4162, subsection 4, on the public lots located within their respective plantations.

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Statement of Fact

It is the intent of this amendment to clarify the language in the original bill and to change related sections to make them consistent with the bill.

Prior to the effective date of chapter 628 of the public laws of 1973, organized plantations received their proportionate share of the income from the Organized Township Fund for schooling, except for 10% of such income which was allocated to the Forest Commissioner for management of the public lots in such plantations. The Organized Townships Fund consists of income received from public lots located in plantations.

This amendment also gives the assessors of plantations a veto power over the management actions of the Director of the Bureau of Public Lands on public lots located in their respective plantations.

Filed by Mr. Martin of Eagle Lake.

Reproduced and distributed under the direction of
the Clerk of the House.
3/25/74

(Filing No. H-801)