

# MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

The following document is provided by the  
**LAW AND LEGISLATIVE DIGITAL LIBRARY**  
at the Maine State Law and Legislative Reference Library  
<http://legislature.maine.gov/lawlib>



Reproduced from scanned originals with text recognition applied  
(searchable text may contain some errors and/or omissions)

FIRST SPECIAL SESSION

ONE HUNDRED AND SEVENTH LEGISLATURE

Legislative Document

No. 2043

H. P. 1872

House of Representatives, January 21, 1976

Referred to the Committee on Taxation. Sent up for concurrence and ordered printed.

EDWIN H. PERT, Clerk

Presented by Mrs. Najarian of Portland.

Cosponsor: Mr. McKernan of Bangor.

STATE OF MAINE

IN THE YEAR OF OUR LORD NINETEEN HUNDRED  
SEVENTY-SIX

AN ACT Relating to Tax on Pari-mutuel Pools and State Stipend Law.

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

**Sec. 1. 7 MRSA § 62, 7th sentence, is amended to read:**

Said stipend shall be divided pro rata among the legally incorporated societies ~~not heretofore provided for~~ according to the amount of premiums and gratuities actually paid in full and in cash or valuable equivalent by said societies upon horses, cattle, sheep, swine, poultry and agricultural and domestic products ~~but~~; provided that each of the qualifying societies which do not conduct pari-mutuel racing shall receive shares which, considering the amount of premiums and gratuities actually paid during the fair season in question, are not less than the equivalent amount received by such societies during the 1974 fair season, and, provided, further, that no such societies whether specifically mentioned in this Title or otherwise shall be entitled to any share of the stipend unless it shall have complied with the following requirements, which shall be considered by the commissioner as the basis upon which his apportionment of the stipend shall be made as provided in this section.

**Sec. 2. 8 MRSA § 274, 2nd sentence, as last amended by PL 1971, c. 433, § 1, is further amended to read:**

Commissions on such pools shall in no event and at no track exceed ~~19%~~ 18% of each dollar wagered, plus the odd cents of all redistribution to be based on each dollar wagered exceeding a sum equal to the next lowest multiple of 10, known as "breakage," which breakage shall be retained by the licensee.

Sec. 3. 8 MRSA § 274, 3rd sentence, as last amended by PL 1973, c. 391, § 1, is further amended to read:

Said maximum shall include the ~~5%~~ tax prescribed in section 275.

Sec. 4. 8 MRSA § 274, as last amended by PL 1973, c. 391, § 1, is further amended by adding at the end the following new sentences:

A sum equal to 1% of such total contribution shall be paid and returned to the licensees for the purpose of supplementing purse money. This sum shall be divided equally among the licensees in the proportion that the number of racing days of a licensee granted by the commission bears to the total number of racing days granted in any one year by the commission. Payments shall be made to said licensees by the end of the calendar year. A sum equal to ½ of 1% of such total contributions shall be paid to the commission to be credited to the trust account entitled "Sire Stakes Fund" provided in section 281.

Sec. 5. 8 MRSA § 275, as amended by PL 1973, c. 391, § 2, is repealed and the following enacted in place thereof:

#### § 275. Taxes

Each person, association or corporation licensed to conduct a race or race meet under this chapter shall pay to the Treasurer of State, to be credited to the General Fund a sum equal to 1% of the first \$100,000; a sum equal to 2% of that amount exceeding \$100,000 up to \$150,000; and a sum equal to 4% of that amount exceeding \$150,000 of the total contribution to the pari-mutuel pool at each program.

#### FISCAL NOTE

There will be a decrease in revenue of \$600,000 the 2nd year of the biennium.

#### STATEMENT OF FACT

The purpose of this bill is to retain an industry essential to the State of Maine.