

MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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L.D. 2117

(Filing No. H-1144)

STATE OF MAINE
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
108TH LEGISLATURE
SECOND REGULAR SESSION

HOUSE AMENDMENT "A" to H.P. 2059, L.D. 2117, Bill, "AN ACT
Relating to the Taxation of the Unorganized Territory."

Amend the bill by inserting before the enacting clause the
following:

'Emergency preamble. Whereas, Acts of the Legislature do
not become effective until 90 days after adjournment unless enacted
as emergencies; and

Whereas, factors in the ~~Tree Growth Tax~~ formula must be fixed
in order to avoid confusion over the amount of property taxes to be
assessed each individual landowner subject to the tree growth tax
law; and

Whereas, unless this Act is enacted as an emergency different
factors in the tree growth tax formula will be in doubt when
property values are assessed on April 1st, 1978; and

Whereas, in the judgment of the Legislature these facts create
an emergency within the meaning 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, '

Further amend the bill by inserting after section 1 the
following:

'Sec. 1-A. 36 MRSA §576-B, as enacted by PL 1977, c. 549, §5,
is amended by inserting at the end the following new paragraph:

Notwithstanding the provisions of this section, the capitalization rate is fixed at 8 1/2% and the percentage factor by which growth rates are reduced is fixed at 20%. These values are to take effect for 1978 and remain in effect until re-determined by the State Tax Assessor at the times provided by this section.'

Further amend the bill by inserting at the end, before the statement of fact, the following:

'Emergency clause. In view of the emergency cited in the preamble, this Act shall take effect when approved.'

Statement of Fact

This amendment freezes the capitalization rate and the discount factor of the tree growth tax formula until the State Tax Assessor redetermines them.

Filed by Mr. Carey of Waterville.

Reproduced and distributed under the direction of the Clerk of the House.
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