

MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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(After Deadline)
SECOND REGULAR SESSION

ONE HUNDRED AND EIGHTH LEGISLATURE

Legislative Document

No. 2128

H. P. 2067

House of Representatives, January 31, 1978

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

EDWIN H. PERT, Clerk

Presented by Mr. Smith of Mars Hill.

Cosponsors: Mr. Lougee of Island Falls, and Mr. McKean of Limestone.

STATE OF MAINE

IN THE YEAR OF OUR LORD NINETEEN HUNDRED
SEVENTY-EIGHT

AN ACT to Readjust Disbursement of the Potato Tax Fund.

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

Sec. 1. 36 MRSA § 4571, sub-§ 1-A is enacted to read:

1-A. Maine Potato Council.

A. The Legislature finds and declares that the activities of the Maine Potato Council are of great benefit to the Maine economy and to the health and welfare of Maine citizens. The Legislature further finds that public support for the activities of the Maine Potato Council work, in promotion of Maine potatoes and improvement of potato industry practices, will benefit Maine citizens and the Maine economy. Therefore, the Legislature finds that use of a portion of the potato tax proceeds to support the Maine Potato Council is an expenditure in the public interest.

B. Thirty percent of the funds collected under section 4565 shall be paid quarterly to the Maine Potato Council which shall use those funds for improvements in the coordination of efforts to improve the potato industry,

promotion of Maine potatoes and the Maine potato industry, assistance to potato farmers in improving potato farming practices and necessary administrative support to the Maine Potato Council.

Sec. 2. 36 MRSA § 4571, sub-§ 5, as repealed and replaced by PL 1975, c. 554, § 7, is amended to read:

5, **Balance of funds.** The funds remaining over and above the expenses of carrying out this chapter, including the expenditures authorized under subsections 1, 1-A, 2, 3 and 4, shall not lapse, but shall be carried in a continuous carrying account to be expended for the purposes of this chapter.

STATEMENT OF FACT

This legislation provides that 30% of the potato tax shall be paid quarterly to the Maine Potato Council to be used for the administration of the council for the development of the potato industry.