

MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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1 FIRST REGULAR SESSION
2

3 ONE HUNDRED AND TWELFTH LEGISLATURE
4

5 Legislative Document

No. 584

6
7 S.P. 221

In Senate, February 19, 1985

8 Reference to the Committee on Appropriations and Financial Affairs
9 suggested and ordered printed.

10 JOY J. O'BRIEN, Secretary of the Senate

Presented by Senator McBreairty of Aroostook.

11 Cosponsored by Representative Conners of Franklin, Senator Twitchell of
Oxford and Representative Martin of Van Buren.

12 STATE OF MAINE
13

14 IN THE YEAR OF OUR LORD
15 NINETEEN HUNDRED AND EIGHTY-FIVE
16

17 AN ACT to Reimburse the Unorganized Territory
18 Education and Services Fund for
19 Overcharges from 1978 to 1983.
20

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

23 **Appropriation.** The following funds are appropri-
24 ated from the General Fund to carry out the purposes
25 of this Act.

26 1985-86

27 FINANCE AND ADMINISTRATION,
28 DEPARTMENT OF

29 Bureau of the Budget

\$2,181,762

30 This appropriation
31 provides funds to re-
32 imburse the Unorga-
33 nized Territory Edu-

1 cation and Services
2 Fund for withdrawals
3 that were incorrectly
4 made from that fund
5 and for credits that
6 were incorrectly
7 withheld from 1978 to
8 1983.

9 STATEMENT OF FACT

10 This bill provides for reimbursement to the Unor-
11 ganized Territory Education and Services Fund for
12 withdrawals from that fund that were incorrectly made
13 and credits incorrectly withheld during the years
14 1978 to 1983. The purpose of the Unorganized Terri-
15 tory Education and Services Fund is to serve as the
16 repository for property tax revenues that are col-
17 lected from taxpayers in the unorganized territory to
18 cover the cost of "municipal" services that are pro-
19 vided in the unorganized territory by the State or
20 the counties. Initially, municipal services provided
21 in the unorganized territory by the State are covered
22 by General Fund appropriations. At the end of each
23 fiscal year, the Bureau of the Budget requests the
24 appropriate agencies to list their costs in providing
25 those services. The amount of those costs is then
26 transferred from the Unorganized Territory Education
27 and Services Fund to the General Fund.

28 The Unorganized Territory Education and Services
29 Fund was established in 1978 as the mechanism for
30 funding of "municipal" services in the unorganized
31 territory. Since that time, some disbursements from
32 the fund have exceeded the amount that should have
33 been withdrawn under the provisions of the law pro-
34 viding for the fund. The following amounts have been
35 incorrectly withdrawn for the following purposes:

36	Public Safety	
37	Fiscal Year 1980	\$ 150,000
38	Human Services	
39	Fiscal Year 1979	178,261
40	Fiscal Year 1980	60,831

1	Fiscal Year 1981	5,174
2	Fiscal Year 1984	117
3	Forest Fire Control	
4	Fiscal Year 1979	178,216
5	Fiscal Year 1981	1,009,952
6	Land Use Regulation	
7	Commission	
8	Fiscal Year 1983-84	44,116

9 In addition, before 1983, the Maine Revised Stat-
10 utes, Title 30, section 4165, provided that income
11 from the Unorganized Territory School Fund "be cred-
12 ited to the General Fund in lieu of educational ex-
13 penditures from other General Fund sources." During
14 the fiscal years from 1978-79 to 1982-83, the income
15 from that fund was credited to the General Fund, but
16 not used to defray educational expenses in the unor-
17 ganized territory as was originally intended. As a
18 result, amounts were withdrawn from the Unorganized
19 Territory Education and Services Fund which were in
20 excess of the amounts that would have been required
21 if the income from the Unorganized Territory School
22 Fund had been credited properly. The amount of in-
23 come from that fund for the fiscal years 1978-79 to
24 1982-83 is as follows:

25	Education	
26	Fiscal Year 1979	\$ 89,027
27	Fiscal Year 1980	101,238
28	Fiscal Year 1981	110,845
29	Fiscal Year 1982	129,779
30	Fiscal Year 1983	127,206

31 The total amount of transfers which are due to
32 the Unorganized Territory Education and Services Fund
33 as a result of incorrect transfers in previous years
34 totals \$2,181,762.

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