MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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1	L.D. 1220
2	(Filing No. H-493)
3 4 5 6	STATE OF MAINE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES 112TH LEGISLATURE SECOND REGULAR SESSION
7 8 9	HOUSE AMENDMENT " $\bf A$ " to H.P. 861, L.D. 1220, Bill, "AN ACT Providing for Administrative Changes in Maine Tax Law."
10 11 12	Amend the bill by striking out everything after the enacting clause and inserting in its place the following:
13 14	'Sec. 1. 36 MRSA §111, sub-§3, as enacted by PL 1979, c. 378, §2, is amended to read:
15 16 17 18 19 20	3. Person. "Person" means an individual, firm, partnership, association, society, club, corporation, estate, trust, business trust, receiver, assignee or any other group or combination acting as a unit, taxable entity, the State or Federal Government or any political subdivision or agency of either government.
21 22 23	Sec. 2. 36 MRSA §1760, sub-§46, as enacted by PL 1983, c. 851 and c. 855, §7, is repealed and the following enacted in its place:
24 25 26 27 28 29 30	46. Residential facilities for medical patients and their families. Incorporated nonprofit organizations providing temporary residential accommodations to pediatric patients suffering from critical illness or disease, such as cancer, or who are accident victims, and adult patients with cancer, or the families of the patients;
31 32	Sec. 3. 36 MRSA $\$1760$, sub- $\$49$ is enacted to read:
33 34 35 36	49. Community action agencies. Sales to community action agencies designated in accordance with Title 5, section 3519, except sales, storage or use for activities which are mainly commercial enter-

- prises;
- Sec. 4. 36 MRSA §1762 is amended to read:
- 3 §1762. Sale of business; purchaser liable for tax
- If any retailer person liable for any tax or in-5 terest levied shall sell out his business or stock of 6 goods, or shall quit the business, he shall make 7 final return and payment within 15 days after the 8 date of selling or quitting business. His successor, 9 successors or assignees, if any, shall withhold suf-10 ficient of the purchase money to cover the amount of 11 such taxes and interest due and unpaid, until such 12 time as the former owner shall produce a receipt from the State Tax Assessor showing that they have been 13 paid or a certificate stating that no taxes or inter-14 est are due. If a purchaser of a business or stock of 15 goods shall fail to withhold purchase money, he shall 16 17 be personally liable for the payment of the taxes and 18 interest accrued and unpaid on account of the opera-19 tion of the business by any former owner, owners 20 assignors.
- 21 Sec. 5. 36 MRSA §2855, sub-§1, as enacted by PL 22 1981, c. 711, §10, is amended to read:
- 1. The code. The "code" means the United States
 Internal Revenue Code of 1954, as amended, as of December 31, 1981 the date applicable to Part 8, and
 the implementing regulations thereof.
- 27 Sec. 6. 36 MRSA §3235, as amended by PL 1983, c. 817, §9, is further amended to read:
- 29 §3235. Tax a debt; recovery; preference
- The taxes, interest and penalties imposed by chapters 7, 451, 453, 459 and 463 463-A, from the time the same shall be due, shall be personal debt of the supplier, distributor, importer, motor carrier or user to the State, recoverable in any court of compe-

- tent jurisdiction in a civil action in the name of the State, and shall have preference in any distribution of the assets of the taxpayer, whether in bankruptcy, insolvency or otherwise. The proceeds of any
- judgment obtained shall be paid to the State Tax As-6 sessor.
- 6 sessor.
- 7 Sec. 7. 36 MRSA §4062, sub-§1, as enacted by PL
 8 1981, c. 451, §7, is repealed and the following enacted in its place:
- 10 <u>1. Code. "Code" means the United States Internal</u>
 11 Revenue Code of 1954, as amended, as of the date applicable with regard to Part 8.
- 13 Sec. 8. 36 MRSA §4063, sub-§1, as enacted by PL 14 1981, c. 451, §7, is amended to read:
- 1. Amount. A tax is imposed upon the transfer of the estate of every person who, at the time of death, was a resident of this State. The amount of this tax is a sum equal to the amount by which the credit for state death taxes allowable to a decedent's estate under the Code, Section 2011 as amended as of December 31, 1980, in this chapter sometimes referred to as the "credit," exceeds the lesser of:
- A. The aggregate amount of all constitutionally valid estate, inheritance, legacy and succession taxes actually paid to the several states of the United States, other than this State, in respect of any property owned by that decedent or subject to those taxes as a part of or in connection with his estate; or
- 30 B. An amount equal to such proportion of such 31 allowable credit as the value of properties tax-32 able by other states bears to the value of the entire federal gross estate wherever situated.
- 34 Sec. 9. 36 MRSA §4365, first ¶, as amended by PL 35 1983, c. 859, Pt. M, §§8 and 13, is further amended

1 to read:

A tax is imposed on all cigarettes held in this State by any person for sale, the tax to be at the rate of 14 mills for each cigarette and the payment thereof to be evidenced by the affixing of stamps to the packages containing the cigarettes. If a federal program similar to that provided in Title 22, section 3185, becomes effective, this tax is reduced by one mill for each cigarette. The Governor shall determine by proclamation when the federal program has become effective. Any eigarette on which a tax has been paid; such payment being evidenced by the affixing of such stamp; shall not be subject to a further tax under this chapter. Nothing contained in this chapter shall be construed to impose a tax on any transaction, the taxation of which by this State is prohibited by the Constitution of the United States.

- Sec. 10. 36 MRSA §4365-A is enacted to read:
- 19 §4365-A. Rate of tax after September 30, 1985

Cigarettes which have been stamped at the rate of 10 mills for each cigarette which are held for resale by any person after September 30, 1985, shall be subject to tax at the rate of 14 mills for each cigarette.

Any person holding cigarettes for resale shall be liable for the difference between the 14 mills for each cigarette tax rate and the 10 mills for each cigarette tax rate in effect prior to October 1, 1985. Stamps evidencing payment of the tax imposed by this section shall be affixed to all packages of cigarettes held as of October 1, 1985, for resale, except that cigarettes held in vending machines as of October 1, 1985, need not be so stamped.

Notwithstanding any other provision of this chapter, it is presumed that all cigarette vending machines are filled to capacity on October 1, 1985, and

- the tax imposed by this section shall be reported on
- 2 that basis. A credit against this inventory tax shall
- 3 be allowed for cigarettes stamped at the 14-mill rate
- placed in vending machines before October 1, 1985. 4
- 5 Payment of the tax imposed by this section shall
- be made to the State Tax Assessor before November 15, 6
- 7 1985, and it shall be accompanied by forms prescribed
- 8 by the State Tax Assessor.
- 9 Sec. 11. 36 MRSA §4368 is amended to read:
- 10 §4368. Stamps affixed by licensed dealers
- 11 Each distributor shall affix, or cause to be af-
- fixed, in such manner as the State Tax Assessor may 12
- 13 specify in regulations issued pursuant to this chap-
- 14 ter, to each individual package of cigarettes sold or
- 15 distributed by him, stamps of the proper denomina-
- 16 tions, as required by section 4365 this chapter. Such
- 17 stamps may be affixed by a distributor at any time
- 18 before the cigarettes are transferred out of his pos-
- 19 session.
- 20 Sec. 12. 36 MRSA §4369, as amended by PL 1983,
- 21 c. 828, §16, is further amended to read:
- 22 §4369. Stamps affixed by licensed dealers
- 23 Each dealer shall, within 72 hours after coming into possession of any cigarettes not bearing proper 24
- 25 stamps evidencing payment of the tax imposed by this
- 26 chapter, and before selling such cigarettes, affix or
- 27 cause to be affixed, in such manner as the State Tax
- 28 Assessor may specify in regulations issued pursuant
- 29 to this chapter, to each individual package of ciga-30
- rettes, stamps of the proper denomination as required
- 31 by section 4365 this chapter.
- Sec. 13. 36 MRSA §4641-D, first ¶, as repealed 32 33 and replaced by PL 1977, c. 318, §2, is amended to
- 34 read:

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Any deed, except as provided in this section,
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      shall, when offered for recording, be accompanied by
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      a statement or declaration prepared in duplicate and
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      signed, subject to the penalties of perjury, by the
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      parties to the transaction or their authorized repre-
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      sentatives, declaring the consideration for the prop-
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      erty thereby transferred and indicating the taxpayer
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      identification numbers of the grantor and grantee.
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      The exceptions to the foregoing are the following:
          Sec. 14. 36 MRSA §5111, as amended by PL 1983,
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      I.B. 2, \S1, and PL 1983, c. 3, \S1, and as repealed and replaced by PL 1983, c. 571, \S18, is repealed and
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      the following enacted in its place:
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      §5111. Imposition and rate of tax
          For tax years beginning on or after January 1,
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      1985, a tax is imposed for each taxable year on the
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      entire taxable income of every resident individual of
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      this State and on the taxable income of every nonres-
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      ident individual which is derived from sources within this State. The amount of the tax shall be determined
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20
21
      in accordance with the following tables.
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    For single individuals and married persons

23
      filing separate returns:
24
         If the taxable income is:
                                            The tax is:
                                      1% of the taxable income
25
      Not over $2,000
26
      $ 2,000 but not over
                                      $
                                          20 +
                                                   2% of excess
27
                $4,300
                                                   over $ 2,000
28
        4,300 but not over
                                      $
                                           66 +
                                                   3% of excess
                                                   over $ 4,300
29
                $6,300
                                          126 +
                                                   6% of excess
30
      $ 6,300 but not over
31
                $8,500
                                                   over $ 6,300
                                                   7% of excess
        8,500 but not over
32
                                          258 +
33
                $10,600
                                                   over $ 8,500
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\$10,600 but not over

\$15,900

34

35

405 +

8% of excess

over \$10,600

1 2	\$15,900 but not over \$25,000	\$ 829 + 9.2% of excess over \$15,900
3	\$25,000 or more	\$1,666 + 10% of excess
4	423,000 OI MOIC	over \$25,000
-		0VEL \$25,000
5 6	2. For unmarried or leads who qualify as heads of l	gally separated individu-
О	als who quality as heads of h	nousenoru:
7	If the taxable income is:	The tax is:
8	Not over \$3,300	1% of the taxable income
9	\$ 3,300 but not over	\$ 33 + 2% of excess
10	\$ 6,300	over \$ 3,300
11	\$ 6,300 but not over	\$ 93 + 3% of excess
12	\$ 9,600	over \$ 6,300
13	\$ 9,600 but not over	\$ 192 + 6% of excess
14	\$12,700	over \$ 9,600
15	\$12,700 but not over	\$ 378 + 7% of excess
16	\$15,900	over \$12,700
17	\$15,900 but not over	\$ 602 + 8% of excess
18	\$23,900	over \$15,900
19	\$23,900 but not over	\$1,242 + 9.2% of excess
20	\$37,500	over \$23,900
21	\$37,500 or more	\$2,493 + 10% of excess
22		over \$37,500
23	For the joint income	of married individuals
24	and widows or widowers perm	
25	turn:	
26	If the taxable income is:	The tax is:
27	Not over \$4,300	1% of the taxable income
28	\$ 4,300 but not over	\$ 43 + 2% of excess
29	\$ 8,500	over \$ 4,300
30	\$ 8,500 but not over	\$ 127 + 3% of excess
31	\$12,700	over \$ 8,500
32	\$12,700 but not over	\$ 253 + 6% of excess
33	\$17,000	over \$12,700
34	\$17,000 but not over	\$ 511 + 7% of excess
35	\$21,200	over \$17,000
36	\$21,200 but not over	\$ 805 + 8% of excess
37	\$31,900	over \$21,200
38	\$31,900 but not over	\$1,661 + 9.2% of excess

1 2 3	\$50,000 \$50,000 or more	\$3,326 +	over \$31,900 10% of excess over \$50,000
4 5	The nominal dollar subject to annual adju		
6 7 8	Sec. 15. 36 MRSA I.B. 2, §2 and PL 1983 following enacted in i	, c. 3, §2, is rep	mended by 1983 pealed and the
9	§5124-A. Standard ded	uction; resident	
10 11 12 13	The standard deduction of a resident hur return or of a resident separate return shall	sband and wife who	o file a joint
14 15 16 17	1. Single persons a low-income allowand justed gross income up \$2,500;	e of \$1,700 or 165 to a maximum	the higher of % of Maine ad- deduction of
18 19 20 21 22	2. Married persons filing joint returning of a low-incommaine adjusted gross in of \$3,100; and	rns or a surviving a callowance of \$2	g spouse, the ,100 or 16% of
23 24 25 26 27 28	3. Married person person filing a separation income allowance of gross income up to a market that if either spance, both must use it	ste return, the hid \$1,000 or 16% of laximum deduction couse used the low	gher of a low- Maine adjusted of \$1,400, ex-
29 30	The nominal dollar subject to annual adju	amounts of this	section are
31 32	Sec. 16. 36 MRSA by PL 1977, c. 722, is		¶D, as enacted

- D. "Successor-taxpayer" means any taxpayer which has acquired within 4 years of its taxable year end in 1978 the organization, trade or business, or 50% or more of the assets thereof, of another taxpayer which, at the time of the acquisition, was an employing unit.
- 7 Sec. 17. 36 MRSA §5215, sub-§3, ¶B, as enacted by PL 1977, c. 722, is amended to read:
- 9 With a new jobs credit base which increases 10 by at least \$ $\frac{1}{2}99.999$ \$1,400,000 for the taxable 11 year of the qualified federal credit and is 12 tributable to the operation of property consid-13 ered to be a qualified investment. The \$1,200,000 14 \$1,400,000 is to be adjusted proportionally for 15 change in Title 26, section 1043, subsection anv 16 2 wages from \$6,000 \$7,000.
- 17 Sec. 18. 36 MRSA §5215, sub-§7, as enacted by PL 18 1981, c. 364, §69, is amended to read:
- 19 Legislative findings. The Legislature finds 20 encouragement of the growth of major industry in 21 the State to be in the public interest and for promotion of the general welfare of the people of the 22 23 State; and that the use of investment tax credits to 24 encourage industry to make substantial capital in-25 vestments in the State is necessary to promote the 26 purpose of the Legislature of encouraging the growth 27 industry; and that the Legislature further finds 28 that the selecting of limits of \$5,000,000 in quali-29 fied investment in the State and an increase of a new 30 job credit base of \$1,200,000 for a tax-31 able year are reasonable qualifying criteria for the 32 application of an investment tax credit and will best promote substantial capital investment in the State. 33
- 34 Sec. 19. 36 MRSA §5220, first ¶, as enacted by 35 P&SL 1969, c. 154, §F, §1, is amended to read:
- 36 An income tax return or franchise tax return with

- respect to the tax imposed by this Part shall be made by the following:
- 3 Sec. 20. 36 MRSA §5220, sub-§5, as repealed and 4 replaced by PL 1983, c. 571, §24, is amended to read:
- 5 Certain taxable corporations and taxable entities. Every taxable corporation or taxable entity which is required to file a federal income tax re-6 7 A taxable corporation which is a member of 8 turn. č an affiliated group and which is engaged in a unitary 10 business with one or more other members of that af-11 filiated group shall file a combined report, contain-12 ing such information as the State Tax Assessor may 13 designate by rule, for each such unitary business. 14 Neither the income nor the property, payroll and 15 sales of a member corporation which is not required 16 to file a federal income tax return shall be included 17 in the combined report. The State Tax Assessor may, 18 in his discretion, allow 2 or more taxable corporations or taxable entities which are members of an af-19 20 filiated group to file a consolidated return.
- 21 Sec. 21. 36 MRSA §5222, sub-§5, as enacted by 22 P&SL 1969, c. 154, §F, is amended to read:
- 5. Corporations and taxable entities. The income tax return of a taxable corporation or the franchise tax return of a taxable entity shall be made and filed by an officer thereof of the corporation or entity.
- 30 §5227. Time and place for filing returns and paying 31 tax
- The income tax return or franchise tax return required by this Part shall be filed on or before the date a federal income tax return (without regard to extension) is due to be filed. A taxpayer required to

- make and file a return under this Part shall, without assessment, notice or demand, pay any tax due thereon
- 3 to the assessor on or before the date fixed for fil-
- 4 ing such return (determined without regard to any ex-5 tension of time for filing the return). The assessor
- 6 shall prescribe by regulation the place for filing
- any return, declaration, statement or other document
- 8 required pursuant to this Part and for the payment of
- 9 any tax.

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10 Sec. 23. 36 MRSA §5251, as amended by PL 1981, 11 c. 371, §2, is further amended to read:

§5251. Information statement

Every employer person required to deduct withhold tax under this Part, or who would have been required so to deduct and withhold tax if an employee had claimed no more than one withholding exemption, shall furnish to each such person in respect to the items of income subject to withholding paid by such employer person to such person during the calendar year on or before February 15th of the succeeding year, or, in the case of an employee who is terminated before the close of such calendar year, within days from the date on which the last payment of wages is made, a written statement as prescribed by the assessor showing the amount of wages paid by the employer to the employee, or in the case of withholding pursuant to section 5255-B the total items of income which were subject to withholding, the amount deducted and withheld as tax, and such other information as the assessor shall prescribe.

- 31 Sec. 24. 36 MRSA §5253, sub-§1, as amended by PL 32 1981, c. 364, §§71 and 72, is further amended to 33 read:
- 1. <u>General</u>. Every employer <u>person</u> required to deduct and withhold tax under this part shall, for each calendar quarter, on or before the last day of the month following the close of such calendar quar-

- ter, file a withholding return as prescribed by the
- assessor and pay over to the assessor or to a deposi-
- tary designated by the assessor, the taxes so required to be deducted and withheld. The State Tax 3 4
- 5 Assessor may, by rule, require or permit the filing
- 6 of returns and paying over of taxes withheld on other
- 7 than a quarterly basis.
- 8 Sec. 25. 36 MRSA §5254, as amended by PL
- 9 c. 371, §4, is further amended to read:

10 §5254. Liability for withheld taxes

- Every empleyer person required to deduct and withhold tax under this Part is hereby made liable 11 12
- 13 for such tax. For purposes of assessment and collec-
- 14 tion, any amount required to be withheld and paid
- over to the assessor, and any additions to tax, pen-15
- 16 alties and interest with respect thereto, shall be
- 17 considered the tax of the employer that person. Any
- 18 amount of tax actually deducted and withheld under
- 19
- this Part shall be held to be a special fund in trust
- 20 for the assessor. No person shall may have any right of action against an empleyer a person in respect to 21
- 22 any money deducted and withheld and paid over to the
- 23 assessor in compliance or in intended compliance with
- 24 this Part.
- 25 Sec. 26. 36 MRSA §5255, as enacted by P&SL 1969,
- 26 c. 154, §F, is amended to read:

27 §5255. Failure to withhold

- If an employer a person fails to deduct and with-28
- hold tax as required, and thereafter the tax against 29 30 which such tax may be credited is paid, the tax
- 31 required to be deducted and withheld shall not be
- 32 collected from the employer person, but the employer
- person shall not be relieved from liability for any 33
- 34 additions to tax penalties or interest otherwise ap-
- plicable in respect to such failure to deduct and 35
- 36 withhold.

- 1 Sec. 27. 36 MRSA §5255-A, first ¶, as enacted by
 2 PL 1971, c. 61, §10, is amended to read:
- The Tax Assessor may, by filing a complaint, for an injunction from doing business of any employer person required to deduct and withhold under this Part whenever any such employer person fails to deduct and withhold tax under this Part; truthfully account for, or pay over, or make returns of the tax as required by section 5253. The existence of other civil or criminal remedies shall be no de-fense to this proceeding.

Any employer person maintaining an office or transacting business within this State and who is required to deduct and withhold a tax on items of income under the United States Internal Revenue Code, Seetiens 1441 and 1442, other than wages subject to withholding as provided in section 5250, shall deduct and withhold from such items to the extent they constitute Maine net income a tax equal to 5% thereof, unless withholding pursuant to the United States Internal Revenue Code is based on other than a flat rate amount. In that event, the State's withholding procedure should estimate taxable income using the same approach to exemptions as the United States Internal Revenue Code and the amount of tax to be withholding methods prescribed pursuant to section 5250.

Sec. 29. Department of Finance and Administration; issuance of rule. The Department of Finance and Administration shall promulgate a rule, pursuant to the provisions of the Maine Revised Statutes, Title 5, chapter 375, requiring the collection of a

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sales tax on meals provided in the wild by persons licensed as outfitters or guides by the Department of Inland Fisheries and Wildlife. The term "in the 3 wild" means at a place other than a base camp, res-4 5 taurant or campground while on a trip or other expe-6 dition and shall include the provision of a meal at a 7 primitive campsite. The rules shall not require as-8 sessment or collection of a sales tax on the consump-9 tion of game species. The rule shall establish the 10 value of a meal at its cost to the outfitter or guide, providing that the meal is provided as part of 11 12 a total service purchased by the customer and that the price of the service does not vary if the meal is not consumed. The rule shall specify means for as-13 14 15 sessment and collection of the sales tax which recognize the unconventional manner of providing meals to 16 17 customers by guides and outfitters in the wild.

STATEMENT OF FACT

Section 1 includes taxable entities as defined in the recently enacted bank franchise tax law in the definition of person to insure applicability of the uniform administrative provisions.

Sections 2 and 3 correct a conflict between substantially different provisions enacted by the public laws of 1983, which all had the same subsection number.

Section 3 also addresses a recent change in the activities of community action agencies. Community action agencies are expanding their services to include commercial contracting services. This amendment limits their sales tax exemption to purchases which are intended for use in noncommercial activities.

Section 4 protects the State from loss of sales tax revenue when a taxpayer, other than a retailer, ceases business.

2	States Internal Revenue Code in the mining excise tax.
4 5	Section 6 corrects a reference to chapter 463 which was repealed and replaced by chapter 463-A.
6 7	Sections 7 and 8 update references to the United States Internal Revenue Code in the estate $\tan x$.
8 9 10 11 12	Sections 9, 10, 11 and 12 clarify that all cigarettes sold on or after October 1, 1985, are subject to the scheduled increase effective on that date, including those held in inventory by retailers and distributors.
13 14 15	Section 13 provides that real estate transfer tax declaration of value forms shall contain taxpayer identification numbers.
16 17 18	Sections 14 and 15 update the income tax tables and standard deduction to account for the effects of indexing.
19 20	Sections 16, 17 and 18 update requirements of the jobs and investment tax credit.
21 22 23 24 25	Sections 19, 20 and 21 insure that taxable entities as defined in the bank franchise tax are subject to the same requirements for combined reporting and filing franchise tax returns as are other corporations for filing income tax returns.
26 27 28 29 30	Sections 22 to 28 increase the scope of the state income tax withholding system to approximate the federal withholding system. Presently, the State's withholding is limited to wages and certain payments to nonresident aliens.
31 32 33	Federal withholding has been expanded to encompass taxable payments from pensions, annuities and certain deferred income, backup withholding on cer-

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1 2 3	tain interest and dividend payments and certain gambling winnings. This amendment subjects these items to the state withholding also.
4 5 6 7 8 9	If the item of income is subject to flat rate federal withholding, it would be subject to a 5% state withholding. Similarly, if federal withholding on the item of income is based on an estimate of taxable income, the state approach is based on estimated taxable income.
10 11	Withholding only applies to items of income which are subject to the state income tax.
12 13 14 15	Section 29 requires the Department of Finance and Administration to issue a rule relating to the sales tax as applied to meals served in the wild by licensed guides or outfitters.
16	5740012786

Filed by Rep. Cashman of Old Town Reproduced and distributed under the direction of the Clerk of the 1/31/86 (Filing No. H-493)