

#### (EMERGENCY) FOURTH SPECIAL SESSION

# Legislative Document

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NO. 2705

H.P. 2001 House of Representatives, November 28, 1988 Received by the Clerk of the House on November 23, 1988. Referred to the Committee on Taxation and ordered printed pursuant to Joint Rule 14.

EDWIN H. PERT, Clerk Presented by Representative CASHMAN of Old Town. Cosponsored by Representative JACKSON of Harrison, Senators SEWALL of Lincoln and TWITCHELL of Oxford.

### STATE OF MAINE

## IN THE YEAR OF OUR LORD NINETEEN HUNDRED AND EIGHTY-EIGHT

AN ACT to Amend the Maine Income Tax Code.

Emergency Whereas, Acts of the 3 preamble. Legislature do not become effective 90 4 until days after adjournment unless enacted as emergencies; and

Whereas, it is necessary that State Tax the this Assessor take certain action pursuant to legislation prior to the expiration of the 90-day period; and

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Whereas, in the judgment of the Legislature, these 1 2 facts create an emergency within the meaning of the 3 Constitution of Maine and require the following legislation as immediately necessary for the preservation of the public peace, health and safety; 4 the 5 6 now, therefore, 7 Be it enacted by the People of the State of Maine as 8 follows: Sec. 1. 5 MRSA §1514, sub-§4, as amended by PL 1987, c. 816, Pt. S, and as repealed and replaced by 9 10 11 PL 1987, c. 819, §1, is repealed and the following 12 enacted in its place: 13 4. Fund adjustments. Adjustments the to fund shall be as follows. 14 15 A transfer from this fund to the General Fund Α. 16 to offset the loss of revenue attributable to 17 income tax reductions to avoid a windfall for the tax year 1987 is required prior to June 30, 1988, in the amount of \$16,500,000. 18 19 B. The State Controller shall transfer to the General Fund any balance in this fund on June 30, 1988, which was certified to it in accordance with 20 21 22 23 subsection 2 as revenue directly attributable to corporate income tax. This transfer will provide additional resources for property tax relief 24 25 relief 26 through an appropriation to the General Purpose 27 Aid to Local Schools Account. 28 C. A transfer from this fund to the General Fund 29 is required to offset the loss of revenue resulting from individual income tax reform for the 1988 tax year. The amount of this transfer 30 31 32 will be equal to the amount certified to the fund because of increased individual income collections through the period ending June 33 tax 34 30, 1988, plus accrued interest, less the amount 35

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transferred in paragraph A to offset individual income tax reductions and less the amount expended to offset 1987 tax year rebates and their administrative costs. This transfer shall be made no later than October 1, 1988.

D. It is intended that the State Controller transfer the amounts defined in paragraph C from the General Fund balance to undedicated revenue. These transfers shall be made on a monthly basis during the period of January 1989, to June 1989, in amounts directly proportional to total individual income tax revenue estimates for those months.

14 Sec. 2. 36 MRSA §5126, as amended by PL 1987, 15 c. 772, §37 and as repealed and replaced by PL 1987, 16 c. 819, §8, is repealed and the following enacted in 17 its place:

## 18 §5126. Personal exemptions tax credit

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19 <u>An individual shall be allowed a personal</u> 20 <u>exemption tax credit in the amount provided in the</u> 21 following tables for each exemption to which the 22 individual is entitled for the taxable year for 23 federal income tax purposes or as otherwise provided 24 in this section.

25 <u>1. Single individuals and married persons filing</u> 26 <u>separate returns. For single individuals and married</u> 27 persons filing separate returns:

28 29	If Maine adjusted The amount of the tax credit per allowable personal exemption is:	
30 30	Less than \$20,000 \$55	
31 32	At least \$20,000, but less than \$25,000 \$65	:
33	\$25,000 or more	
34	2. Heads of households. For unmarried	

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1 2	individuals or legally separated individuals who qualify as heads of households:
3 4	If Maine adjusted The amount of the tax credit per gross income is: allowable personal exemption is:
5	Less than \$30,000 \$55
6	At least \$30,000, but
7	less than \$37,500 \$65
8	\$37,500 or more \$30
9	3. Individuals filing married joint return or
10	surviving spouses. For individuals filing married
11	joint returns or surviving spouses permitted to file a
12	joint return:
13	If Maine adjusted The amount of the tax credit per
14	gross income is: allowable personal exemption is:
15	Less than \$40,000 \$55
16	At least \$40,000, but
17	less than \$50,000 \$65
18	\$50,000 or more \$30
19	Individuals entitled to zero personal exemptions
20	for federal income tax purposes are entitled to a
21	single personal exemption tax credit in an amount
22	determined in accordance with the tables in this
23	section.
24	An additional personal exemption tax credit is
25	allowable to each individual who, pursuant to the
26	Code, Section 63(f), if claiming a standard deduction
27	for the tax year, is entitled to the additional amount
28	provided in either the first paragraph of the Code or
29	the higher amount provided in the 3rd paragraph. An
30	additional personal exemption tax credit is also
31	allowable to each individual who, pursuant to the
32	Code, Section 63(f), is, if claiming a standard

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deduction for the tax year, entitled to the additional amount provided in either the 2nd paragraph of the Code or the higher amount provided in the 3rd paragraph. For a tax year in which the taxpayer does not file a joint return with that taxpayer's spouse and if the spouse has no gross income for the calendar year in which the taxable year of the taxpayer begins and is not the dependent of another taxpayer, the taxpayer is entitled to claim a personal exemption tax credit for each additional personal exemption allowable to the spouse as provided by this section. In no case does this credit reduce the Maine income tax to less than zero.

14 Emergency clause. In view of the emergency cited in the preamble, this Act shall take effect when 15 16 approved.

### FISCAL NOTE

18 This bill, when combined with Public Law 1987, chapter 819, results in a \$42,400,000 reduction in individual income tax revenue for fiscal year 1989. Individual income tax revenue is divided in the ratio 19 20 21 22 of 94.9% to the General Fund and 5.1% to the Local Government Fund.

#### STATEMENT OF FACT

25 Section 1 of this bill is to conform the accounting treatment of the final balance in the Tax Reserve Adjustment Fund with the intent of the 26 27 28 Legislature, the intent being that the final fund 29 balance be used to offset reductions in revenue 30 attributable to reductions in the 1988 individual 31 income tax.

32 Section 2 of this bill is intended to increase the legislated reduction in fiscal year 1989 individual 33 34 income tax revenue by about \$42,400,000.

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