

MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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114th MAINE LEGISLATURE

FIRST REGULAR SESSION - 1989

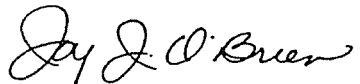
Legislative Document

No. 541

S.P. 225

In Senate, March 3, 1989

Reference to the Committee on Taxation suggested and ordered printed.


JOY J. O'BRIEN
Secretary of the Senate

Presented by Senator RANDALL of Washington.

Cosponsored by Senator TWITCHELL of Oxford, Representative FOSTER of Ellsworth and Representative FARREN of Cherryfield.

STATE OF MAINE

IN THE YEAR OF OUR LORD
NINETEEN HUNDRED AND EIGHTY-NINE

**An Act to Require that All Interest on Blueberry Tax Funds Accrue to the
Blueberry Tax Account.**



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

3 36 MRSA §4311-A, sub-§1, as enacted by PL 1983, c. 836, §8,
5 is amended to read:

7 1. Collection and enforcement. For the collection of the
9 taxes imposed by this law and the enforcement of this chapter.
11 Any funds which accrue to the blueberry tax account and are held
13 by the Treasurer of State shall be invested by ~~him~~ the Treasurer
15 of State until disbursement is authorized by the Maine Blueberry
Commission. ~~The first \$20,000, each year, of income~~ Income from
any investment of blueberry tax funds shall ~~accrue to the General~~
~~Fund undedicated revenue, any additional amounts~~ shall accrue to
the blueberry tax account and shall be appropriated for the same
purposes as specified elsewhere in this section.;

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STATEMENT OF FACT

21 Currently, the State collects a tax on blueberries for the
23 purpose of supporting blueberry marketing and research. The
25 first \$20,000 of interest derived from the money in the blueberry
tax account accrues to the General Fund. This bill eliminates
that provision and will result in all interest accruing to the
blueberry tax account.

27

29 In fiscal year 1988, the blueberry tax account had revenues
of \$510,070, of which \$15,161 was investment interest,
expenditures of \$602,459 and an ending balance of \$316,070.