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Legislative Document

No. 1170

H.P. 838

House of Representatives, April 13, 1989

Reference to the Committee on Taxation suggested and ordered printed.

EDWIN H. PERT, Clerk

Presented by Representative MANNING of Portland. Cosponsored by Representative DAGGETT of Augusta and Representative CROWLEY of Stockton Springs.

STATE OF MAINE

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

An Act to Facilitate State Income Tax Withholding from Ordered Civil Service Annuities.

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

36 MRSA §5250-A is enacted to read:

<u>§5250-A. Withholding of state income taxes from federal</u> retirement pay for civil service annuitant

1. Voluntary withholding. The assessor may enter into an agreement with the United States Office of Personnel Management for the voluntary withholding of state income taxes from the retirement pay of United States civil service annuitants under the provisions of Public Law 97-35, Section 1705. The assessor is hereby authorized to do all acts and comply with any requirements necessary to enable retired United States civil servants to elect voluntary withholding of state income taxes from their retirement pay.

2. Rules. The assessor shall establish by rule a procedure under which a United States civil service annuitant may request voluntary withholding under an agreement entered into under subsection 1. The procedure may include a minimum monthly amount to be withheld and paid over to the State.

3. Disclosure. The assessor may disclose to the United States Office of Personnel Management the name, address or social security number of any United States civil service annuitant electing voluntary withholding of state income taxes whenever necessary to enable the United States Office of Personnel Management to implement such withholding under the terms of an agreement entered into under subsection 1.

<u>4. Definitions. As used in this section, unless the context otherwise indicates, the following terms have the following meanings.</u>

A. "Civil service annuitant" means any person retired from the federal civil service who has Maine personal income tax liability in connection with the receipt of retirement pay. "Civil service annuitant" includes a survivor annuitant within the meaning of United States Code, Title 5, Section 8331.

<u>B.</u> "Retirement pay" means regular, recurring monthly annuity payments received based on conditions of federal retirement law.

STATEMENT OF FACT

The purpose of this bill is to allow the State Tax Assessor to enter into an agreement with the United States Office of Personnel Management. This agreement would allow Maine to

Page 1-LR1934(1)

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become a participant in the state tax withholding program. Under this program, recipients of civil service retirement pay could request the United States Office of Personnel Management to deduct state income taxes from their retirement pay.

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