

MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

The following document is provided by the
LAW AND LEGISLATIVE DIGITAL LIBRARY
at the Maine State Law and Legislative Reference Library
<http://legislature.maine.gov/lawlib>



Reproduced from scanned originals with text recognition applied
(searchable text may contain some errors and/or omissions)



114th MAINE LEGISLATURE

FIRST REGULAR SESSION - 1989

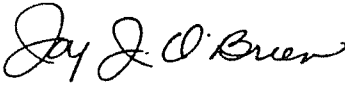
Legislative Document

No. 1520

S.P. 549

In Senate, May 8, 1989

Reference to the Committee on Taxation suggested and ordered printed.


JOY J. O'BRIEN
Secretary of the Senate

Presented by Senator DUTREMBLE of York.

STATE OF MAINE

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

An Act to Require that All Surplus Money be Applied to Property Tax Relief.

(EMERGENCY)



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

5 Whereas, property taxes have skyrocketed in parts of the
6 State in recent years; and

7
8 Whereas, relief is necessary to safeguard the homes and
9 financial well-being of many residents; and

11 Whereas, in the judgment of the Legislature, these facts
12 create an emergency within the meaning of the Constitution of
13 Maine and require the following legislation as immediately
14 necessary for the preservation of the public peace, health and
15 safety; now, therefore,

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

19 **5 MRS §1516** is enacted to read:

21 **§1516. Property Tax Relief Fund**

23 **1. Fund established.** There is established the Property Tax
24 Relief Fund. The State Controller shall, at the close of each
25 fiscal year, transfer to the fund any unappropriated surplus of
26 the General Fund over accepted estimates in that fiscal year that
27 remains after the transfer required in section 1513. For the
28 purposes of this section, accepted revenue estimates shall be
29 determined in the same manner as in section 1513.

31 **2. Expenditures from fund.** The Treasurer of State shall,
32 by August 1st, annually, distribute to municipalities the money
33 in the fund on July 1st of that year. Each municipality shall be
34 paid the proportion of the fund which is equal to the
35 municipality's proportion of the total state population. For
36 purposes of this section, "population" means the same as in Title
37 30-A, section 5681.

39 **3. Investment of funds.** The money in the fund may be
40 invested as provided by law and the earnings credited to the fund.

41 **Emergency clause.** In view of the emergency cited in the
42 preamble, this Act shall take effect when approved.

45
46
47 **STATEMENT OF FACT**

49 This bill provides that all unappropriated surplus of the
50 General Fund remaining after the transfer at the end of the
51 fiscal year to the State's Rainy Day Fund shall be transferred to
a new Property Tax Relief Fund to be distributed to
municipalities in proportion to their population.