



116th MAINE LEGISLATURE

FIRST REGULAR SESSION-1993

Legislative Document

No. 206

H.P. 154

House of Representatives, January 28, 1993

An Act to Require Reimbursement of Fines or Penalties Imposed on Municipalities by the Department of Environmental Protection.

Reference to the Committee on Energy and Natural Resources suggested and ordered printed.

OSEPH W. MAYO, Clerk

Presented by Representative CARON of Biddeford. Cosponsored by Representatives: AHEARNE of Madawaska, DiPIETRO of South Portland, DONNELLY of Presque Isle, DUTREMBLE of Biddeford, FARNUM of South Berwick, HATCH of Skowhegan, MURPHY of Berwick, PLOURDE of Biddeford, REED of Dexter, VIGUE of Winslow, Senator: CONLEY of Cumberland.

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

Sec. 1. 38 MRSA §349, sub-§10 is enacted to read:

10. Municipal Fines and Penalties Fund; reimbursement. 6 There is established a nonlapsing Municipal Fines and Penalties Fund. Any fine or penalty imposed on a municipality under this 8 section and section 1319-T must be deposited in the fund. The commissioner shall reimburse a municipality for any civil or 10 criminal fine or penalty imposed under this section or section 1319-T if the commissioner determines that the municipality, within 2 years of the imposition of the fine or penalty, has 12 corrected or taken corrective action to alleviate the condition that caused the fine or penalty. A fine or penalty remaining in 14 the fund after 2 years of being imposed must be deposited in the General Fund. 16

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Sec. 2. 38 MRSA §1319-T, sub-§3 is enacted to read:

3. Municipal Fines and Penalties Fund; reimbursement. Any fine or penalty imposed on a municipality pursuant to this section must be administered in accordance with section 349, subsection 10.

STATEMENT OF FACT

This bill requires the Commissioner of Environmental Protection to reimburse a municipality for a civil or criminal fine or penalty imposed pursuant to Maine's environmental laws if the commissioner determines the municipality, within 2 years of the imposition of the fine or penalty, has corrected or taken corrective action to alleviate the condition that caused the fine or penalty to be imposed. It also creates the Municipal Fines and Penalties Fund.