

MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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R. of S.

L.D. 856

(Filing No. S-116)

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**STATE OF MAINE
SENATE
116TH LEGISLATURE
FIRST REGULAR SESSION**

COMMITTEE AMENDMENT "A " to S.P. 286, L.D. 856, Bill, "An Act Regarding County Contingent Account Limits"

Amend the bill in section 1 by striking out all of subsection 2 (page 1, lines 6 to 15 in L.D.) and inserting in its place the following:

'2. **Contingent fund.** There is established a contingent account in each county in an amount not to exceed \$50,000 annually, except in Sagadahoc County where the contingent account may not exceed 4% of the annual budget. Notwithstanding the preceding sentence, a county, by unanimous action of the county commissioners, may increase the contingent account limit to an amount not exceeding \$100,000. Any funds that are available to each county may be used for this purpose. This fund may be used at the discretion of the county commissioners for emergency purposes only, except that if a county increases the contingent account limit as authorized in the 2nd sentence of this subsection, expenditures from the account above \$50,000 must be approved by a majority of the county legislative delegation if the county's budget is subject to legislative approval or approved by a majority of the county budget or finance committee if the county's budget is not finally approved by the Legislature. At the end of each fiscal year there must be transferred from unencumbered county funds an amount sufficient to restore the established county contingent account.'

STATEMENT OF FACT

Currently most counties are authorized to establish contingent accounts up to \$50,000 that may be used by the county

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COMMITTEE AMENDMENT "A " to S.P. 286, L.D. 856

2 commissioners for emergency purposes. This amendment authorizes
3 counties to raise the limit on the contingent account to \$100,000
4 and changes the approval process for use of additional funds in
5 the account if it does so. The amendment requires that all
6 expenditures from the contingent account in excess of the
7 previous \$50,000 limit must be approved by majority vote of the
8 legislative delegation or the county budget or finance committee.

Reported by the Minority for the Committee on State and
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(5/6/93)

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