MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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117th MAINE LEGISLATURE

FIRST REGULAR SESSION-1995

Legislative Document

No. 388

H.P. 284

House of Representatives, February 6, 1995

An Act to Increase the Tax Exemption on Church Properties.

Reference to the Committee on Taxation suggested and ordered printed.

OSEPH W. MAYO, Clerk

Presented by Representative LOOK of Jonesboro. Cosponsored by Representatives: AHEARNE of Madawaska, BIGL of Bucksport, DEXTER of Kingfield, HEINO of Boothbay, JOY of Crystal, MORRISON of Bangor, RICE of South Bristol, STEDMAN of Hartland, Senators: CASSIDY of Washington, CIANCHETTE of Somerset, FERGUSON of Oxford, LORD of York.

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

Sec. 1. 36 MRSA $\S652$, sub- $\S1$, \PG , as amended by PL 1971, c. 111, is further amended to read:

G. Houses of religious worship, including vestries, and the pews and furniture within-the-same; tombs and rights of burial; and property owned and used by a religious society as a parsonage to the value of \$20,000 \$40,000, and personal property not exceeding \$6,000 in value, but se-much-ef any portion of the parsonage as that is rented is liable to taxation. For purposes of the tax exemption provided by this paragraph a parsonage shall--mean means the principal residence provided by a religious society for its elergyman clergy whether or not located within the same municipality or place as the house of religious worship where the elergyman clergy regularly conducts religious services.

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STATEMENT OF FACT

This bill increases the property tax exemption amount for property used as a parsonage from \$20,000 to \$40,000.