



117th MAINE LEGISLATURE

SECOND REGULAR SESSION-1996

Legislative Document

No. 1771

S.P. 697

In Senate, February 13, 1996

An Act Concerning Technical Changes to the Tax Laws.

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(EMERGENCY)

Submitted by the Department of Administrative and Financial Services pursuant to Joint Rule 24.

Reference to the Committee on Taxation suggested and ordered printed.

May Th.

MAY M. ROSS Secretary of the Senate

Presented by Senator HATHAWAY of York. Cosponsored by Representative TRIPP of Topsham and Senators: CAREY of Kennebec, FERGUSON of Oxford, Representatives: DORE of Auburn, DUNN of Gray, GREEN of Monmouth, MURPHY of Berwick, REED of Falmouth.

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

- Whereas, delay in making technical changes to the tax laws would interfere with administration of those laws; and 6
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Whereas, legislative action is immediately necessary in order to ensure continued and efficient administration of the tax laws; and 10

Whereas, in the judgment of the Legislature, these facts 12 create an emergency within the meaning of the Constitution of Maine and require the following legislation as immediately 14necessary for the preservation of the public peace, health and safety; now, therefore, 16

Be it enacted by the People of the State of Maine as follows: 18

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Sec. 1. 36 MRSA §112, sub-§1, as amended by PL 1995, c. 281, \$1, is further amended to read:

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1. General powers and duties. The State Tax Assessor shall administer and enforce the tax laws enacted under this Title and 24 Title 29-A, and may adopt rules and require such under information to be reported as necessary. 26 The assessor may investigate, enforce and prosecute activities defined as crimes in this Title and any related criminal activities. The assessor 28 shall provide, at the time of issuance, to one or more entities that publish a monthly state tax service all rules, bulletins, 30 taxpayer notices or alerts, notices of rulemaking, any other taxpayer information issued by the assessor, and all substantive 32 amendments or modifications of the same, for publication by that entity or entities. When a significant change has occurred in 34 Bureau of Taxation policy or practice or in the interpretation by the bureau of any law, rule or instruction bulletin, the assessor 36 shall, within 60 days of the change, provide to the same 38 publishing entity or entities written notice, suitable for publication, of the change.

Sec. 2. 36 MRSA §112, sub-§2, as amended by PL 1985, c. 785, Pt. B, §168, is further amended to read: 42

Organization. The State Tax Assessor may employ such 44 2. deputies, assistants and employees as are necessary, subject to the Civil Service Law unless otherwise provided, 46 as--are necessary, and distribute the duties given to him the assessor or 48 to the Bureau of Taxation among such persons or divisions in that bureau as he-deems the assessor considers necessary for economy efficiency 50 and in administration. An

officer within each division of the bureau shall must be
designated by the State-Tax-Assesser assessor as director of that division. Notwithstanding any other provision of law, the
director of the Compliance Division and the director of the Research Division serve at the pleasure of the assessor. The
State-Tax-Assesser assessor, for enforcement and administrative purposes, may divide the State into a reasonable number of districts in which branch offices may be maintained.

10 Sec. 3. 36 MRSA §174, sub-§1, as enacted by PL 1981, c. 364, §12, is amended to read:

12 Generally. If any a taxpayer fails to pay any a tax 1. imposed by this Title on or before the due date of that tax, the 14 State Tax Assessor, through the Attorney General, may commence a civil action within 6 years of that-due-date the issuance of the 16 demand notice required by section 171 in any a court of competent jurisdiction within in this State in the name of the State for 18 the recovery of that tax. In this action, the certificate of the 20 State Tax Assessor showing the amount of the delinquency is prima facie evidence of the levy of the tax, of the delinquency and of 22 the compliance by the State Tax Assessor with this Title in relation to the assessment of the tax.

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Sec. 4. 36 MRSA 176-A, sub-16, as amended by PL 1993, c. 395, 5, is further amended to read:

Time for collection of taxes. 28 16. Taxes must be collected by levy within 10 years after the assessment of the tax becomes 30 final, or prior to the expiration of any the period of collection agreed upon in writing by the assessor and the taxpayer. The period agreed upon may be extended by subsequent agreements in 32 writing made before the expiration of the period previously 34 agreed upon. Any A levy action ordered by the assessor before the expiration of the 10-year period continues beyond the 36 expiration of the 10-year period for a period of 6 months from the date such the levy is first made or until the liability out 38 which such the levy arose is satisfied or of becomes unenforceable, whichever occurs first. The running of the 40 10-year period is stayed during the time that a consensual payment plan between the taxpayer and the assessor is in effect. 42 When any a question relative to the taxes is pending before any an agency or court at--the-end-of--the--10-year--peried, the 44 assessor's right to collect any the tax due by levy continues until 6 years after the final determination of the question. 46 When a taxpayer files for protection under the United States Bankruptcy Code, the assessor's right to collect any the tax due 48 by levy continues until 6 years after the date of discharge or dismissal of the bankruptcy proceeding.

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Sec. 5. 36 MRSA §177, sub-§1, as amended by PL 1991, c. 546, 2 §1, is further amended to read:

Generally. All sales and-use taxes collected by any a 4 1. person pursuant to Part 3, all taxes collected by any a person under color of Part 3 which that have not been properly returned 6 or credited to the persons from whom they were collected, all 8 taxes collected by any or imposed on a person pursuant to chapter 451 or 459, all fees collected pursuant to chapter 719 and all 10 taxes collected by any <u>a</u> person pursuant to chapter 827 constitute a special fund in trust for the State Tax Assessor. The liability for the taxes or fees and any the interest or 12 penalty on taxes or fees is enforceable by assessment and collection, in the manner prescribed in this Part, against the 14 person and against any an officer, director, member, agent or employee of that person who, in that capacity, is responsible for 16 the control or management of the funds or finances of that person or is responsible for the payment of that person's taxes. 18

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Sec. 6. 36 MRSA §187-B, sub-§7, \P G, as enacted by PL 1991, c. 873, §5 and affected by §§8 and 9, is amended to read:

G. The amount subject to a penalty imposed by subsections $\frac{1}{2}$ and $\frac{2}{2}$ $\frac{1}{2}$ and $\frac{4}{4}$ is de minimis when considered in relation to the amount otherwise properly paid, the reason for the failure to file or pay and the taxpayer's compliance history.

- 28 Sec. 7. 36 MRSA §193 is enacted to read:
- 30 §193. Returns; declaration covering perjury; submission of returns and funds by electronic means

A return, report or other document required to be made 34 pursuant to this Title must contain a declaration, in a form prescribed by the State Tax Assessor, that the statements contained in the return, report or other document are true and 36 that they are made under the penalties of perjury. The assessor 38 may allow or require the filing of a return or document by electronic data submission or telephonically. The assessor may also allow or require the payment of a tax or the refund of a tax 40 by the electronic transfer of funds. An electronic funds transfer allowed or required by the assessor pursuant to this 42 section is considered a return. The assessor may adopt rules in 44 order to establish procedures necessary to implement the provisions of this section. 46

Sec. 8. 36 MRSA §1752, sub-§10, as repealed and replaced by PL 1987, c. 497, §21, is amended to read:

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Retailer. "Retailer" means any <u>a</u> person who makes
 retail sales or who is required to register by section 1754 <u>or</u> section 1754-A or who is registered under section 1756.

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Sec. 9. 36 MRSA §1760, sub-§14 is amended to read:

Publications. Sales of any <u>a</u> publication <u>printed on</u>
 <u>paper and</u> regularly issued at average intervals not exceeding 3 months.

Sec. 10. 36 MRSA §1760, sub-§25, as amended by PL 1991, c. 12 546, §21, is further amended to read:

Watercraft sold to nonresidents. Sales in this State 14 25. to nonresidents of watercraft, when such craft are either delivered outside the State or delivered in the State to be 16 sailed or transported outside the State immediately upon delivery 18 by the seller; and any sales to nonresidents, under contracts for the construction of any such craft to be so delivered, of 20 materials to be incorporated; and any sales to nonresidents for the repair, alteration, refitting, reconstruction, overhaul or restoration of any such craft to be so delivered, of materials to 22 be incorporated. Unless the craft is present in the State, for a purpose other than temporary storage, for more than 30 days 24 during the 12-month period following its date of purchase or is registered in Maine without also being registered in another 26 state or documented with a location in this State, within 12 months of the date of purchase, the purchaser is exempt from the 28 use tax.

Sec. 11. 36 MRSA §1951-A, sub-§1, as enacted by PL 1991, c. 9, 32 Pt. E, §24, is amended to read:

Monthly report and payment. Every retailer shall file 34 1. with the State Tax Assessor, on or before the 15th day of each month, a report made-under-the pains and penalties of perjury on 36 such a form as the State--Tax--Assesser--may--preseribe assessor prescribes that discloses the total sale price of all sales made 38 during the preceding calendar month and such other information as 40 the State-Tax-Assessor assessor requires. The State-Tax-Assessor assessor may permit the filing of returns other than monthly. The 42 State--Tax--Assesser assessor, by rule, may waive reporting nontaxable sales. Upen-application of -a-retailer, - the State - Tax 44 Assessor--shall--issue--a--elassified--permit--establishing--the percentage-of-exempt-sales-The-classified-permit-may-be-amended 46 er--reveked--as--to--its--classification--whenever--the--State--Tax Assesser--determines--that--the--percentage--ef--exempt--sales--is 48 The State-Tax-Assessor assessor may for good cause inaceurate. extend for not more than 30 days the time for making returns 50 required under ehapters----211----to----225 this Part.

Every person subject to the use tax shall file similar reports, at similar dates, and pay the tax or furnish a receipt for the same from a registered retailer.

Sec. 12. 36 MRSA §2113, as amended by PL 1991, c. 780, Pt. 6 CCC, §3, is repealed and the following enacted in its place:

8 §2113. Criminal penalties

 A violation of a provision of this Part for which a penalty or forfeiture is not provided by any other provision of law is a
 Class E crime, except that a person who has a prior conviction and violates the same provision commits a Class D crime.

Sec. 13. 36 MRSA §3743 is amended to read:

§3743. Intent of provisions

The intent and purpose of this chapter, - imposing - an - estate tax, is to obtain for this State the benefit of the credit 20 allowed under Title III, section 301, subsection (b) of the Federal Revenue Act of 1926 to the extent that this State may be 22 entitled by this chapter by imposing an additional tax, and the 24 same--shall chapter must be liberally construed to effect this purpose. The--State--Tax--Assesser--may--make--such--regulations relative-to-the-assessment-and-the-collection-of-the-tax-provided 26 by-this-chapter--not-inconsistent-with-law--as-may-be-necessary 28 to-carry-out-this-intent.

30 Sec. 14. 36 MRSA §4074, as amended by PL 1991, c. 846, §35, is further amended to read:

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§4074. Authority of State Tax Assessor

The State Tax Assessor shall collect all taxes, interest and penalties provided by chapter 7 and by this chapter and may institute proceedings of any nature necessary or desirable for that purpose, including such proceedings as may be necessary or desirable for the removal of personal representatives and trustees who have failed to pay the taxes due from estates in their hands.

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The State-Tax-Assesser assessor may enforce the collection 44 of any taxes secured by bond in a civil action brought on the bond regardless of the fact that some other official may be named 46 as obligee in the bond.

48 If--any--overpayment--of--tax--imposed--by--this--ehapter--is
 refunded--within--3--months--after--the--date-last--prescribed,--or
 50 permitted-by-extension-of-time,-for-filing-the-return-of-that-tax

or-within-3-months-after-the-return-is-filed-or-within-3-months
after-a-return-requesting-a-returd-of-the-overpayment-is-filed,
whichever-is-later,-no-interest--may-be-paid-by-the-State-Tax
Assesser.

Sec. 15. 36 MRSA §4305, as repealed and replaced by PL 1977, c. 694, §711, is amended to read:

§4305. Certification

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Every processor or shipper of blueberries shall, -- each -year before-processing-or-shipping-blueberries, obtain certification 12 from the State Tax Assessor. The State-Tax-Assesser assessor shall provide the applications for the certification, which shall 14 must contain the name under which the processor or shipper is transacting business within in the State, the place or places of 16 the names and addresses of the several persons business, constituting a firm or partnership, and, if a corporation, the 18 corporate name and names and addresses of its principal officers and agents within in the State. No A processor or shipper shall 20 may not process or ship any blueberries until the certification has been issued. Certification may be suspended or revoked by 22 the State-Tax-Assessor assessor for failure to pay such-blueberry 24 the tax as-may-be-due imposed by section 4303 or for the filing of false or fraudulent reports or returns as--required-by--the All-certification-shall-expire-July-lst, 26 State-Tax-Assesser. annually,-and-shall A certificate issued by the assessor pursuant to this section is not be deemed to be a license within the 28 meaning of that term in the Maine Administrative Procedure Act.

- Sec. 16. 36 MRSA §5122, sub-§2, ¶H, as amended by PL 1991, c. 591, Pt. N. §7 and affected by §8, is further amended to read:
- H. For each taxable year subsequent to the year of the loss, an amount equal to the absolute value of any the net operating loss arising from tax years beginning on or after January 1, 1989, but before January 1, 1993, for which federal adjusted gross income was increased in accordance with subsection 1, paragraph H and that pursuant to the United-States-Internal-Revenue-Code code, Section 172 was carried back for federal income tax purposes, but only to the extent that:
- 44 (1) Maine net <u>taxable</u> income is not reduced below zero;
- 46 (2) The taxable year is within the allowable federal period for carry-over; and
- (3) The amount has not been previously used as a50 modification pursuant to this subsection.

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154, §F, §1, is amended to read: 4 3. Alternate attribution of adjustment. The assessor may by regulation, upon the taxpayer's written request, authorize the 6 use of such other methods of determining to whom the items 8 comprising the fiduciary adjustment shall-be are attributed, as may be appropriate and equitable, -on-such terms and conditions as 10 the-assesser-may-require. Sec. 18. 36 MRSA §5176, sub-§2, as enacted by P&SL 1969, c. 12 154, §F, §1, is amended to read: 14 2. Alternate methods. The assessor may by--regulation establish, upon the taxpayer's written request, authorize the use of such other method or methods of determining the respective

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equitable.

Sec. 17. 36 MRSA §5164, sub-§3, as enacted by P&SL 1969, c.

- 16 18 shares of the beneficiaries and of the estate or trust in its derived from sources in this and the income State, in 20 modifications related thereto, as may be appropriate and
- Sec. 19. 36 MRSA §5200-A, sub-§2, ¶H, as amended by PL 1991, c. 591, Pt. N, §12 and affected by §13, is further amended to 24 read: 26

For each taxable year subsequent to the year of the н. loss, an amount equal to the absolute value of any the net 28 operating loss arising from tax years beginning on or after January 1, 1989 but before January 1, 1993 and that, 30 pursuant to the United-States-Internal-Revenue-Code code, 32 Section 172, was carried back for federal income tax purposes, but only to the extent that:

- Maine net taxable income is not reduced below zero; (1)
- (2)The taxable year is within the allowable federal period for carry-over; and 38
- The amount has not been previously used as a 40 (3) modification pursuant to this subsection.
- Sec. 20. 36 MRSA §5232, as enacted by P&SL 1969, c. 154, §F, §1, is repealed. 44
- Sec. 21. 36 MRSA §5233, as enacted by P&SL 1969, c. 154, §F, 46 $\S1$, is repealed.
- Sec. 22. 36 MRSA §5240, as enacted by P&SL 1969, c. 154, §F, 50 §1, is repealed.

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Sec. 23. 36 MRSA §5241, as amended by PL 1987, c. 819, §12, is further amended to read:

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§5241. Partnership and S corporation returns

Every partnership and S corporation having with a resident 8 partner or shareholder or having--any with income derived from sources in this State, determined in accordance with the applicable rules of section 5142 as in the case of a nonresident 10 individual, shall make a return for the taxable year setting 12 forth all items of income, gain, loss, and deduction, and the names and addresses of the individuals whether residents or 14 nonresidents who would be entitled to share in the net income if distributed and the amount of the distributive share of each individual and such other pertinent information as the assesser 16 State Tax Assessor may prescribe by---regulations---and 18 instructions. A return, statement or other document required of a partnership must be signed by one or more partners. The appropriate return shall must be filed on or before the 15th day 20 of the 4th month for partnerships or the 15th day of the 3rd month for S corporations following the close of each taxable 22 year. For purposes of this section, "taxable year" means a year or period which that would be a taxable year of the partnership 24 or S corporation if it were subject to tax under this Part. The 26 State-Tax-Assesser assessor may elect to waive the requirement to file a Maine return as established in this section for any particular a tax year and in its place require the partnership or 28 S corporation to file a copy of its federal partnership or S 30 corporation return.

32 Sec. 24. 36 MRSA §5242, as enacted by P&SL 1969, c. 154, §F, §1, is amended to read:

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§5242. Information returns

The assessor may preseribe -- regulations -- and -- instructions 38 requiring require returns of information to be made and filed on or before February 28th of each year by any a person making payment or crediting in any a calendar year the amounts of \$600 40 or more (\$10 or more in the case of interest or dividends) to any a person who may be subject to the tax imposed under this Part. 42 Such The returns may be required of any a person, including 44 lessees or mortgagors of real or personal property, fiduciaries, employers, and all officers and employees of this State, or of 46 any a municipal corporation or political subdivision of this State, having the control, receipt, custody, disposal or payment 48 of dividends, interest, rents, salaries, wages, premiums, annuities, compensations, remunerations, emoluments or other 50 fixed or determinable gains, profits, or income, except interest

coupons payable to bearer. A duplicate of the statement as to tax withheld on wages, required to be furnished by an employer to an employee, shall-constitute constitutes the return of information required to be made under this section with respect to such those wages.

Sec. 25. 36 MRSA §5250, sub-§3, as amended by PL 1979, c. 541, 8 Pt. A, §243, is further amended to read:

10 3. Withholding agreements. The assessor may enter into agreements with the tax departments of other states,-which that require income tax to be withheld from the payment of wages and 12 salaries, so as to govern the amounts to be withheld from the wages and salaries of residents of such those states under this 14 Such The agreements may provide for recognition of chapter. anticipated tax credits in determining the amounts to be withheld 16 and,--under--regulations-prescribed--by--the--assessor, may relieve employers in this State from withholding income tax on wages and 18 salaries paid to nonresident employees. The agreements authorized by this subsection are subject to the condition that the tax 20 department of such the other states grant similar treatment to residents of this State. 22

Sec. 26. 36 MRSA §5250-A, sub-§3, ¶¶C and D, as enacted by PL 24 1991, c. 591, Pt. Y, $\S2$ and affected by $\S3$, are amended to read: 26 C. The consideration for the property is less than \$50,000; 28 θ£ Written notification of the withholding requirements of 30 D. this section has not been provided to the buyer.; or 32 Sec. 28. 36 MRSA §5250-A, sub-§3, ¶E is enacted to read: 34 E. The seller is the State or an agency or political

36 <u>subdivision of the State, the Federal Government or an agency of the Federal Government, an organization exempt</u>
38 <u>from income taxes pursuant to the code, Section 501(a) or an insurance company exempt from the tax imposed by this Part.</u>
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Sec. 29. 36 MRSA §5252, as amended by PL 1981, c. 371, §3, is further amended to read:

44 §5252. Credit for tax withheld

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46 Wages and other items of income upon which tax is required to be withheld shall--be are taxable under this Part as if no 48 withholding were required, but any the amount of tax actually deducted and withheld under this chapter in any <u>a</u> calendar year

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shall-be is deemed to have been paid to the assessor on behalf of
the person from whom withheld, and such the person shall-be is credited with having paid that amount of tax for the taxable year
beginning in such the calendar year. For-a-taxable year of-less than-12-months, the credit shall be made under regulations of the
assessor, If more than one taxable year begins in a calendar year, the amount is allowed as a credit for the most recent taxable year.

10 Sec. 30. 36 MRSA §5266, as amended by PL 1977, c. 694, §724, is repealed.

Sec. 31. 36 MRSA §5276-A, sub-§1, as amended by PL 1993, c. 14 395, §23, is further amended to read:

Any An agency of the State, including the 16 1. Generally. University of Maine System or the Maine Technical College System, that is authorized to collect from any an individual or 18 corporation a liquidated debt greater than \$25 shall notify in writing the State Tax Assessor and supply information necessary 20 to identify the debtor whose refund is sought to be set off. The 22 State-Tax-Assesser, assessor, upon any-such notification, shall assist the requesting agency by setting off that debt,-pursuant 24 to-rules-promulgated-by-the-State-Tax-Assessor, against any a refund to which that individual or corporation is entitled under this Part. Liquidated child support debts that the Department of 26 Human Services has contracted to collect, pursuant to Title 19, 28 section 448-A or 495, subsection 2, are eligible, under the provisions of this section, for setoff against any a refund due the obligated individual. The State-Tax Assessor assessor shall 30 provide the creditor agency with the name, address and social 32 security number of each debtor whose refund is subject to setoff.

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Sec. 32. 36 MRSA §5284, sub-§1, as amended by PL 1993, c. 253, §1, is further amended to read:

1. Maine Endangered and Nongame Wildlife Fund. Taxpayers 38 who, when filing their return, are entitled to a refund under this Part may designate any that a part of that refund be paid 40 into the Maine Endangered and Nongame Wildlife Fund established in Title 12, section 7757. A taxpayer who is not entitled to a 42 refund under this Part may contribute to the Maine Endangered and Nongame Wildlife Fund by including with that taxpayer's return sufficient funds to make the contribution. 44 Each individual income tax return form must contain designation in а 46 substantially the following form: "Contribution to Maine Endangered and Nongame Wildlife Fund: () \$5, () \$10, () • '' 48 \$25 or () Other \$

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Sec. 33. 36 MRSA §5285, sub-§1, as amended by PL 1993, c. 600, 2 Pt. A, §280, is further amended to read:

Maine Children's Trust Incorporated. Taxpayers who, 4 1. when filing their returns, are entitled to a refund under this Part may designate that a portion of that refund be paid into the 6 Maine Children's Trust Incorporated established in Title 22, 8 chapter 1058. A taxpayer who is not entitled to a refund under this Part may contribute to the Maine Children's Trust Incorporated by including with that taxpayer's return sufficient 10 funds to make the contribution. Each individual income tax return form must contain a designation in substantially the 12 "Contributions to Maine Children's following form: Trust Incorporated: () \$5, () \$10, () \$25 or () Other \$." 14Sec. 34. 36 MRSA §6207, sub-§1, ¶A-1, as amended by PL 1995, c. 16 368, Pt. CCC, §8 and affected by §11, is further amended to read: 18 A-1. Fifty percent of that portion of the benefit base that exceeds 5.0% but does not exceed 10.0% of income and plus 20 100% of that portion of the benefit base that exceeds 10% of income to a maximum payment of \$700. 22 Sec. 35. 36 MRSA §6213, as enacted by PL 1987, c. 516, §§3 24 and 6, is amended to read: 26 §6213. Appeal 28 A denial in whole or in part of relief claimed under this chapter may be appealed in accordance with section 151 and the 30 Maine Administrative Procedure Act, Title 5, chapter 375. 32 Emergency clause. In view of the emergency cited in the preamble, this Act takes effect when approved. 34 36 STATEMENT OF FACT 38 This bill makes technical corrections, clarifications and minor substantive changes to various laws concerning taxation and 40 also repeals various obsolete tax provisions. 42 The bill clarifies the State Tax Assessor's ability to investigate, enforce and prosecute crimes not governed by the 44 Maine Revised Statutes, Title 36 if related to or part of a common criminal enterprise or scheme involving criminal tax 46 fraud. Possible examples include theft or embezzlement if otherwise related to a criminal tax violation. 48

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The bill provides that the directors of the Compliance Division and the Research Division of the Bureau of Taxation serve at the pleasure of the State Tax Assessor and also provides that the State Tax Assessor may commence a civil action to collect a delinquent tax liability within 6 years of the date that the assessor issues a formal demand for payment.

8 The bill deletes some language in Title 36, section 176-A in order to make it clear that the statute of limitations for 10 collecting a delinquent tax by means of a levy is stayed during the time that the assessment is under administrative 12 reconsideration or court review.

14 The bill clarifies the original intent of Title 36, section 177, subsection 1 to include special fuel taxes in the definition 16 of trust fund obligations.

The bill clarifies certain of the conditions under which the substantial understatement penalty provided by Title 36, section
187-B, subsection 4-A must be waived by the State Tax Assessor.

22 The bill creates a new provision of law allowing the State Tax Assessor to provide for the electronic filing of tax returns 24 and for the payment of taxes by electronic funds transfer.

26 The bill clarifies that publications must be printed on paper in order to be entitled to an exemption from sales and use 28 tax.

30 The bill provides that the sale of a watercraft to a nonresident does not incur a sales or use tax if the watercraft 32 is temporarily stored in this State after its purchase, even if it is stored for more than 30 days.

The bill amends Title 36, section 1951-A to delete the 36 language requiring the State Tax Assessor to issue a classified permit establishing the percentage of a retailer's exempt sales.

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The bill amends the general criminal provision of the sales and use tax law, Title 36, section 2113, to provide that what would normally be a Class E crime is a Class D crime when there is a prior conviction.

44 The bill amends Title 36, section 5241 to provide that tax returns required to be filed by a partnership must be signed by 46 one or more partners.

48 The bill amends Title 36, section 5250 to provide certain exemptions from the real estate tax withholding provisions. 50

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The bill amends Title 36, section 5284, subsection 1 to 2 provide that a taxpayer who is not entitled to an income tax refund may contribute to the Maine Endangered and Nongame 4 Wildlife Fund by including the contribution with the taxpayer's return.

The bill amends Title 36, section 5285, subsection 1 to 8 provide that a taxpayer who is not entitled to an income tax refund may contribute to the Maine Children's Trust Incorporated 10 by including the contribution with the taxpayer's tax return.

12 The bill also deletes unnecessary language relating to regulations and makes technical corrections.

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