

# MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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# 118th MAINE LEGISLATURE

## FIRST REGULAR SESSION-1997

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Legislative Document

No. 271

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S.P. 91

In Senate, January 21, 1997

**An Act to Allow a Greater Share of the Transfer Tax to Remain in the Counties Where it is Collected.**

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Reference to the Committee on Taxation suggested and ordered printed.

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Joy J. O'Brien".

JOY J. O'BRIEN  
Secretary of the Senate

Presented by Senator GOLDTHWAIT of Hancock.  
Cosponsored by Senators: DAGGETT of Kennebec, FERGUSON of Oxford, Representatives:  
BUNKER of Kossuth Township, CROSS of Dover-Foxcroft, DRISCOLL of Calais,  
KNEELAND of Easton, McALEVEY of Waterboro, VOLENIK of Brooklin.

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

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4       **Sec. 1. 36 MRSA §4641-B, 5th ¶**, as amended by PL 1983, c. 859,  
Pt. M, §10, is repealed and the following enacted in its place:

6       On or before the 10th day of each month, each register of  
8       deeds shall pay over to the State Tax Assessor a percentage of  
10       the tax collected during the previous month based on the  
12       following schedule:

14       1. **Payments in 1998.** Beginning February 1998, 87% of the  
16       tax collected. The remaining 13% is retained by the county by  
18       the register of deeds and accounted for to the county treasurer  
20       as reimbursement for services rendered by the county in  
22       collecting the tax;

24       2. **Payments in 1999.** Beginning February 1999, 84% of the  
26       tax collected. The remaining 16% is retained by the county by  
28       the register of deeds and accounted for to the county treasurer  
30       as reimbursement for services rendered by the county in  
32       collecting the tax;

34       3. **Payments in 2000.** Beginning February 2000, 81% of the  
36       tax collected. The remaining 19% is retained by the county by  
38       the register of deeds and accounted for to the county treasurer  
40       as reimbursement for services rendered by the county in  
42       collecting the tax;

44       4. **Payments in 2001.** Beginning February 2001, 78% of the  
46       tax collected. The remaining 22% is retained by the county by  
48       the register of deeds and accounted for to the county treasurer  
50       as reimbursement for services rendered by the county in  
      collecting the tax; and

5. **Payments in 2002.** Beginning February 2002, 75% of the  
      tax collected. The remaining 25% is retained by the county by  
      the register of deeds and accounted for to the county treasurer  
      as reimbursement for services rendered by the county in  
      collecting the tax.

40       **Sec. 2. 36 MRSA §4641-B, 7th ¶**, as amended by PL 1989, c. 104,  
42       Pt. C, §§8 and 10, is repealed and the following enacted in its  
44       place:

46       The State Tax Assessor shall pay all net receipts to the  
48       Treasurer of State, who shall monthly pay to the Maine State  
50       Housing Authority an amount equal to 45% of the total tax  
      collected, which amount must be deposited in the Housing  
      Opportunities for Maine Fund, created in Title 30-A, section  
      4853, and who shall credit the remainder of the net receipts to  
      the General Fund.

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## SUMMARY

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Beginning in 1998, this bill increases the portion of the real estate transfer tax that is retained by the county by 3% each year for 5 years to a maximum of 25%.

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