

MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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118th MAINE LEGISLATURE

FIRST REGULAR SESSION-1997

Legislative Document

No. 287

H.P. 223

House of Representatives, January 21, 1997

An Act to Improve the Administration of Tax Increment Financing.

Submitted by the Department of Economic and Community Development pursuant to Joint Rule 204.

Reference to the Committee on Taxation suggested and ordered printed.

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Joseph W. Mayo".

JOSEPH W. MAYO, Clerk

Presented by Representative VIGUE of Winslow.
Cosponsored by Senator JENKINS of Androscoggin.

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

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4 **Sec. 1. 30-A MRSA §5252, sub-§4**, as amended by PL 1991, c. 431, §§1 and 2, is further amended to read:

6 **4. Development program.** "Development program" means a
8 statement of means and objectives designed to provide new
10 employment opportunities, retain existing employment, improve or
12 broaden the tax base and improve the quality--of--life,---the
14 physical facilities and structures and or the quality of
16 pedestrian and vehicular ~~traffie--entrel--and~~ transportation
18 within the development district. The statement must include:

20 A. A financial plan;

22 B. A complete list of public facilities to be constructed;

24 C. The uses of private property within the district;

26 D. Plans for the relocation of persons displaced by the
28 development activities;

30 E. The proposed regulations and facilities to improve
32 transportation;

34 F. The environmental controls to be applied;

36 G. The proposed operation of the district after the planned
38 capital improvements are completed; and

40 H. The duration of the program that must not exceed 30
42 years from the date of designation of the district.

44 **Sec. 2. 30-A MRSA, §5252, sub-§8, ¶A**, as amended by PL 1989,
46 c. 6; c. 9, §2; and c. 104, Pt. C, §§8 and 10, is further amended
48 to read:

 A. The term "project costs" does not include the cost of
 facilities, buildings, or portions of buildings, used
 predominantly for the general conduct of government or for
 public recreational purposes. These facilities and
 buildings include, but are not limited to, city halls and
 other headquarters of government where the governing body
 meets regularly, courthouses, jails, police stations and
 other State Government and local government office
 buildings, recreation centers, athletic fields and swimming
 pools.

SUMMARY

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4 This bill clarifies statutory language regarding the
6 authorized uses of tax increment funds derived from municipal tax
8 increment financing districts. Current language could be subject
to local interpretation inconsistent with the intent and practice
of the enabling legislation, which is to facilitate job creation
and retention, improve and broaden the tax base and improve the
general economy of the State.