

MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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119th MAINE LEGISLATURE

FIRST REGULAR SESSION-1999

Legislative Document

No. 318

S.P. 121

In Senate, January 14, 1999

An Act to Allow Counties to Retain a Larger Share of the Real Estate Transfer Tax.

Reference to the Committee on Taxation suggested and ordered printed.

A handwritten signature in cursive script, reading "Joy J. O'Brien".

JOY J. O'BRIEN
Secretary of the Senate

Presented by Senator GOLDTHWAIT of Hancock.
Cosponsored by Representative MADORE of Augusta and
Senators: DAGGETT of Kennebec, FERGUSON of Oxford, Representatives: COLWELL of
Gardiner, LABRECQUE of Gorham, McDONOUGH of Portland, NASS of Acton, POVICH
of Ellsworth, STANWOOD of Southwest Harbor.

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

2 **Sec. 1. 36 MRSA §4641-B, 5th ¶**, as amended by PL 1997, c. 504,
4 §9, is repealed and the following enacted in its place: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
 the tax collected during the previous month based on the
10 following schedule:

12 1. Payments in 2000. Beginning February 2000, 87% of the
 tax collected. The remaining 13% is retained by the county by
14 the register of deeds and accounted for to the county treasurer
 as reimbursement for services rendered by the county in
16 collecting the tax;

18 2. Payments in 2001. Beginning February 2001, 84% of the
 tax collected. The remaining 16% is retained by the county by
20 the register of deeds and accounted for to the county treasurer
 as reimbursement for services rendered by the county in
22 collecting the tax;

24 3. Payments in 2002. Beginning February 2002, 81% of the
 tax collected. The remaining 19% is retained by the county by
26 the register of deeds and accounted for to the county treasurer
 as reimbursement for services rendered by the county in
28 collecting the tax;

30 4. Payments in 2003. Beginning February 2003, 78% of the
 tax collected. The remaining 22% is retained by the county by
32 the register of deeds and accounted for to the county treasurer
 as reimbursement for services rendered by the county in
34 collecting the tax; and

36 5. Payments in 2004. Beginning February 2004, 75% of the
 tax collected. The remaining 25% is retained by the county by
38 the register of deeds and accounted for to the county treasurer
 as reimbursement for services rendered by the county in
40 collecting the tax.

42 **Sec. 2. 36 MRSA §4641-B, 7th ¶**, as amended by PL 1997, c. 759,
 §1 and affected by §2, is repealed and the following enacted in
44 its place:

46 The State Tax Assessor shall pay all net receipts to the
 Treasurer of State, who shall pay monthly to the Maine State
48 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. The Treasurer of State shall credit the remainder of the net receipts to the General Fund.

SUMMARY

Beginning in 2000, 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%.