

# MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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# 119th MAINE LEGISLATURE

## FIRST REGULAR SESSION-1999

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Legislative Document

No. 414

S.P. 145

In Senate, January 14, 1999

**An Act to Allow a Municipality to Request a Joint Check from the  
Circuit Breaker Program in the Event of Nonpayment of Taxes.**

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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 LIBBY of York.  
Cosponsored by Representatives: CIANCHETTE of South Portland, MACK of Standish,  
McALEVEY of Waterboro.

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

4 **Sec. 1. 36 MRSA §6203-A is enacted to read:**

6 **§6203-A. Payment by joint check**

8 A municipality may request that a check issued in payment of  
10 a claim under this chapter be issued payable jointly to the  
12 claimant and to the municipality if a tax lien has been filed by  
14 the municipality in the registry of deeds on the property that is  
16 the basis of the claim for payment under this chapter. A  
18 municipality requesting joint payment under this section shall  
20 provide the bureau annually, by the date established by the  
22 bureau, with a list of all homestead property against which a  
24 lien has been filed in the registry of deeds. The list must  
26 contain any other information required by the bureau to match the  
names of persons on the list with claimants for benefits under  
this chapter. The bureau shall compare the list with the names  
of persons entitled to benefits under this chapter and, if the  
bureau determines that tax liens have been filed against  
homestead property owned by any person entitled to benefits under  
this chapter, the bureau shall issue the payment jointly to the  
claimant and the municipality. Any information received by a  
municipal official or municipal employee under this section must  
be considered confidential in the same manner as provided in  
section 191.

28 **Sec. 2. Application.** This Act applies to claims submitted  
30 under the Maine Revised Statutes, Title 36, chapter 907 beginning  
32 August 1, 2000.

34 **SUMMARY**

36 This bill provides that a municipality may request that a  
38 check issued in payment of a claim under the Maine Residents  
40 Property Tax Program be issued payable jointly to the claimant  
42 and to the municipality if a tax lien has been filed by the  
municipality in the registry of deeds on the property that is the  
basis of the claim. A municipality that requests a joint check  
must provide annually a list of all liens against homestead  
property to the Bureau of Revenue Services.