

MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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M
R.S.

L.D. 587

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DATE: March 29, 1999

(Filing No. S-49)

TAXATION

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**STATE OF MAINE
SENATE
119TH LEGISLATURE
FIRST REGULAR SESSION**

COMMITTEE AMENDMENT "A" to S.P. 198, L.D. 587, Bill, "An Act to Ameliorate Penalties for Late Filing of Municipal Tax Returns"

Amend the bill in section 1 in that part designated "§383." by striking out all of subsection 4 (page 1, lines 37 to 46 in L.D.) and inserting in its place the following:

'4. Penalty for late filing. If the complete return and lists required by this section are not filed on time, the State Tax Assessor shall impose a penalty to be deducted from state reimbursement due to the municipality or primary assessing area under section 578. For a municipality or primary assessing area with a population of 2,000 or less, the penalty is \$50 for the first late day plus \$10 for each late day thereafter. For a municipality or primary assessing area with a population of more than 2,000, the penalty is \$100 for the first late day plus \$20 for each late day thereafter. The penalty may not exceed the total amount of reimbursement due the municipality or primary assessing area under section 578.'

Further amend the bill by striking out all of section 2.

Further amend the bill by inserting at the end before the summary the following:

COMMITTEE AMENDMENT

R.S.

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FISCAL NOTE

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6 Currently, municipalities that do not file a completed
8 Municipal Valuation Return by the statutory deadline are not
10 eligible for tree growth tax reimbursement. This bill would
12 allow those late filers to receive a portion of the tree growth
14 tax reimbursement. The amount of the additional reimbursements
16 for late filers will depend on the penalties assessed. These
18 amounts can not be determined at this time.

12

14 The Bureau of Revenue Services will incur some minor
16 additional costs to calculate the penalties and the net amounts
18 of reimbursement to late filers. These costs can be absorbed
20 within the bureau's existing budgeted resources.'

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SUMMARY

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22 This amendment provides that the penalty established is
24 deducted only from reimbursement due the municipality or primary
 assessing area under the Tree Growth Tax Law and is limited to
 the amount of that reimbursement. The amendment also adds a
 fiscal note to the bill.