

MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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119th MAINE LEGISLATURE

FIRST REGULAR SESSION-1999

Legislative Document

No. 934

H.P. 678

House of Representatives, February 2, 1999

**An Act to Prohibit Tax Revenues from Being Diverted from the
Unorganized Territories.**

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 JOY of Crystal.
Cosponsored by Representatives: CAMPBELL of Holden, CARR of Lincoln, CROSS of
Dover-Foxcroft, JODREY of Bethel, MENDROS of Lewiston, PINKHAM of Lamoine,
STEDMAN of Hartland, WHEELER of Bridgewater.

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

4 **Sec. 1. 30-A MRSA §7504 is enacted to read:**

6 **§7504. Tax revenue from unorganized territories**

8 Notwithstanding any other provision of law, tax revenues
10 from property within unorganized territories must be used only
12 for unorganized territories, except that, upon request of the
Legislature and approval of 2/3 of the registered voters in all
unorganized territories, a specific sum may be used for other
purposes.

14 **Sec. 2. 36 MRSA §1606, as amended by PL 1989, c. 373, §1, is**
16 **further amended to read:**

18 **§1606. Property taxes credited on assessments; quarterly**
20 **payments for unorganized territory services and annually**
for county taxes

22 Notwithstanding any other statute to the contrary, the gross
24 amount of property taxes assessed upon real and personal property
26 in the unorganized territory through the State Tax Assessor for
28 the benefit of any special fund or political subdivision of the
30 State may be credited on the books of the State to the special
32 fund or to the proper fiscal officer of the political
34 subdivision. The Treasurer of State shall pay to that fiscal
36 officer the amount of the tax so assessed, in equal quarterly
38 amounts for unorganized territory services, on or before the last
40 day of July, October, January and April and an annual installment
42 for county taxes on or before October 15th following the date of
44 the assessment. The amount of the assessment is appropriated for
46 the purposes of this section. Upon collection by the State Tax
48 Assessor, such taxes shall must be deposited in the Unorganized
Territory Education and Services Fund. All abatements of such
taxes shall must be charged against the Unorganized Territory
Education and Services Fund and all interest and supplemental
assessments shall must be paid into the Unorganized Territory
Education and Services Fund; and neither may be charged against
or credited to the special fund or political subdivision on
account of which the tax was levied. ~~Any excess of supplemental~~
~~assessments over abatements accruing to the Unorganized Territory~~
~~Education and Services Fund shall be considered as reimbursement~~
~~to the Unorganized Territory Education and Services Fund for~~
~~administrative expenses connected with the assessment of these~~
~~taxes.~~ The intent of the Legislature is to permit the
administration of all real and personal property taxes in the
unorganized territory through the Unorganized Territory Education
and Services Fund as a matter of convenience and economy.

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SUMMARY

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This bill prohibits property tax revenues from unorganized territories from being diverted to other uses without request of the Legislature and approval of 2/3 of the voters in the unorganized territories.

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