MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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119th MAINE LEGISLATURE

FIRST REGULAR SESSION-1999

Legislative Document

No. 1344

H.P. 947

House of Representatives, February 16, 1999

An Act to Provide Long-term Funding for the Land for Maine's Future Program.

Reference to the Committee on Taxation suggested and ordered printed.

OSEPH W. MAYO, Clerk

Presented by Speaker ROWE of Portland. Cosponsored by Senator PINGREE of Knox and

Representatives: BRYANT of Dixfield, CIANCHETTE of South Portland, DAVIS of

Falmouth, DUNLAP of Old Town, ETNIER of Harpswell, PIEH of Bremen, TOWNSEND of

Portland, Senator: AMERO of Cumberland.

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

Sec. 1. 36 MRSA §4641-B, last ¶, as amended by PL 1997, c. 759, §1 and affected by §2, is further amended to read:

The State Tax Assessor shall pay all net receipts to the Treasurer of State, who shall credit 1/2 of the revenue to the General Land for Maine's Future Fund, established in Title 5, section 6203, until July 1, 2009 when the Treasurer of State shall credit 1/2 of the revenue to the General Fund and who shall monthly pay the remaining 1/2 to the Maine State Housing Authority, which shall deposit the funds in the Housing Opportunities for Maine Fund created in Title 30-A, section 4853.

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SUMMARY

This bill provides that until June 30, 2009, 45% of all receipts from the real estate transfer tax must be deposited in the Land for Maine's Future Fund. These funds must be used to acquire land and easements from willing sellers for public outdoor access and recreation, farmland preservation, land conservation and to protect wildlife habitat.

The Housing Opportunities for Maine Fund continues to receive a 45% share of real estate transfer tax receipts and counties continue to receive a 10% share of real estate transfer tax receipts.