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No. 897

H.P. 693

House of Representatives, February 15, 2001

An Act to Create an Income Tax Exemption for the Dental and Medical State Loans Repayment Program.

Reference to the Committee on Taxation suggested and ordered printed.

Millicent M. Mac Failand

MILLICENT M. MacFARLAND, Clerk

Presented by Representative PEAVEY of Woolwich. Cosponsored by Representatives: BERRY of Belmont, BUCK of Yarmouth, FULLER of Manchester, GREEN of Monmouth, JONES of Greenville, McKEE of Wayne, O'BRIEN of Augusta, Speaker SAXL of Portland.

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

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Sec. 1. 36 MRSA §5122, sub-§2, ¶L, as amended by PL 1999, c. 4 708, §35 and c. 731, Pt. S, §2 and affected by §4 and amended by c. 790, Pt. A, $\S49$, is repealed and the following enacted in its place: 6 8 L. For income tax years beginning on or after January 1, 2000, an amount equal to the total premiums spent for gualified long-term care insurance contracts as defined in 10 the Code, Section 7702B(b), as long as the amount subtracted 12 is reduced by the long-term care premiums claimed as an itemized deduction pursuant to section 5125; 14 Sec. 2. 36 MRSA §5122, sub-§2, ¶M, as enacted by PL 1999, c. 708, §36 and c. 731, Pt. S, §3 and affected by §4, is repealed 16 and the following enacted in its place: 18 M. An amount, for each recipient of benefits under an 20 employee retirement plan, that is the lesser of: 22 (1) Six thousand dollars reduced by the total amount of social security benefits and railroad retirement benefits paid by the United States, but not less than 24 \$0; or 26 (2) The aggregate of benefits received under employee 28 retirement plans and included in federal adjusted gross income. For purposes of this paragraph, "employee 30 retirement plan" means a state, federal or military retirement plan or any other retirement benefit plan established and maintained by an employer for the 32 benefit of its employees under Section 401(a), Section 34 403 or Section 457(b) of the Code. "Employee retirement plan" does not include an individual 36 retirement account under Section 408 of the Code, a Roth IRA under Section 408A of the Code, a rollover 38 individual retirement account, a simplified employee pension under Section 408(k) of the Code or an 40 ineligible deferred compensation plan under Section 457(f) of the Code; 42 Sec. 3. 36 MRSA §5122, sub-§2, ¶¶N and O are enacted to read: 44 N. Interest or dividends on obligations or securities of 46 this State and its political subdivisions and authorities to the extent included in federal adjusted gross income; and 48

O. The amount of loan repayments including principal and interest made under Title 20-A, chapter 421, 423, 424 or 426. 2 4 SUMMARY 6 This bill creates an income tax exemption for loan repayments made to state-sponsored loan programs for medical and 8 dental education. 10 This bill also corrects a conflict created by Public Law 1999, chapters 708 and 731 which each enacted a new paragraph M. 12 This bill resolves the conflict by reallocating one of the new paragraphs to be paragraph N. 14

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