

MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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120th MAINE LEGISLATURE

FIRST REGULAR SESSION-2001

Legislative Document

No. 949

H.P. 729

House of Representatives, February 20, 2001

An Act to Fairly Distribute the Payment of Real Estate Transfer Taxes.

Reference to the Committee on Taxation suggested and ordered printed.

Millicent M. MacFarland

MILLICENT M. MacFARLAND, Clerk

Presented by Representative GREEN of Monmouth.
Cosponsored by Senator GOLDTHWAIT of Hancock and
Representatives: BUMPS of China, CHICK of Lebanon, McLAUGHLIN of Cape Elizabeth,
MURPHY of Berwick, NASS of Acton, TESSIER of Fairfield, Senator: CARPENTER of York.

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

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3 **Sec. 1. 36 MRSA §4641-B, 5th ¶**, as amended by PL 1997, c. 504,
4 §9, is repealed and the following enacted in its place:

6 On or before the 10th day of each month, each register of
7 deeds shall pay over to the State Tax Assessor a percentage of
8 the tax collected during the previous month based on the
9 following schedule:

10 1. Payments in 2002. Beginning February 2002, 89% of the
11 tax collected. The remaining 11% is retained by the county by
12 the register of deeds and accounted for to the county treasurer
13 as reimbursement for services rendered by the county in
14 collecting the tax;

15 2. Payments in 2003. Beginning February 2003, 87% of the
16 tax collected. The remaining 13% is retained by the county by
17 the register of deeds and accounted for to the county treasurer
18 as reimbursement for services rendered by the county in
19 collecting the tax;

20 3. Payments in 2004. Beginning February 2004, 84% of the
21 tax collected. The remaining 16% is retained by the county by
22 the register of deeds and accounted for to the county treasurer
23 as reimbursement for services rendered by the county in
24 collecting the tax;

25 4. Payments in 2005. Beginning February 2005, 80% of the
26 tax collected. The remaining 20% is retained by the county by
27 the register of deeds and accounted for to the county treasurer
28 as reimbursement for services rendered by the county in
29 collecting the tax; and

30 5. Payments in 2006. Beginning February 2006, 75% of the
31 tax collected. The remaining 25% is retained by the county by
32 the register of deeds and accounted for to the county treasurer
33 as reimbursement for services rendered by the county in
34 collecting the tax.

35 **Sec. 2. 36 MRSA §4641-B, 7th ¶**, as amended by PL 1997, c. 759,
36 §1 and affected by §2, is repealed and the following enacted in
37 its place:

38 The State Tax Assessor shall pay all net receipts to the
39 Treasurer of State, who shall pay monthly to the Maine State
40 Housing Authority an amount equal to 45% of the total tax
41 collected, which amount must be deposited in the Housing
42 Opportunities for Maine Fund, created in Title 30-A, section

2 4853. The Treasurer of State shall credit the remainder of the
3 net receipts to the General Fund.

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SUMMARY

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Beginning in 2002, this bill increases the portion of the real estate transfer tax that is retained by the county to 25% from 10%, phased in over 5 years.