# MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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## 121st MAINE LEGISLATURE

### FIRST REGULAR SESSION-2003

Legislative Document

No. 416

H.P. 324

House of Representatives, February 4, 2003

An Act To Amend the County Contingent Fund

Reference to the Committee on State and Local Government suggested and ordered printed.

Millicent M. MacFarland MILLICENT M. MacFARLAND Clerk

Presented by Representative McLAUGHLIN of Cape Elizabeth. Cosponsored by Representatives: BARSTOW of Gorham, BLISS of South Portland.

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

2 **Se** 4 §1. is

Sec. 1. 30-A MRSA §922, sub-§2, as amended by PL 1993, c. 343, §1, is further amended to read:

Contingent fund. 2. There is established a contingent account in each county in an amount not to exceed \$50,000 annually,-except-in-Sagadahoc-County-where-the-contingent-account may--net--execed the lesser of 4% of the annual budget or \$1,000,000. Notwithstanding-the-preceding-sentence, -a-county, -by unanimous - action - of - the - county - commissioners , - may - increase - the contingent -- account -- limit -- to -- an -- amount -- not -- exceeding -- \$100,000 + Any funds that are available to each county may be used for this purpose. This The contingent fund may be used at the discretion of the county commissioners for emergency purposes only,-except that -- if -- a -- county -- increases -- the -- contingent -- account -- limit, empenditures-from-the-account-above-\$50,000-must-be-approved-by-a majority--of--the--county--budget--or--finance--committee--if--the eounty's-budget-is-not-finally-approved-by-the-Legislature. the end of each fiscal year there must be transferred from unencumbered county funds an amount sufficient to restore the established county contingent account.

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#### **SUMMARY**

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This bill permits counties to establish contingent accounts, not to exceed the lesser of 4% of the county budget or \$1,000,000, which may be used for emergency purposes only.