

MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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121st MAINE LEGISLATURE

FIRST REGULAR SESSION-2003

Legislative Document

No. 1070

H.P. 788

House of Representatives, March 4, 2003

An Act To Increase Traffic Fines and Apportion a Part of the Increase to the Issuing Jurisdiction

Reference to the Committee on Transportation suggested and ordered printed.

Millicent M. MacFarland
MILLICENT M. MacFARLAND
Clerk

Presented by Representative SUSLOVIC of Portland.
Cosponsored by Representative KANE of Saco, Senator STRIMLING of Cumberland and
Representatives: ADAMS of Portland, COLLINS of Wells, JACKSON of Fort Kent,
MARLEY of Portland, McCORMICK of West Gardiner, McKENNEY of Cumberland,
TOBIN of Windham, USHER of Westbrook.

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

2
4 **Sec. 1. 29-A MRSA §103, sub-§3**, as amended by PL 1995, c. 584, Pt. B, §2, is further amended to read:

6 **3. Exclusive penalty.** The exclusive penalty for a traffic
8 infraction is a fine of not less than \$25 nor more than \$500,
10 unless specifically authorized, or suspension of a license, or
12 both.

Fines established in this subsection are subject to increase
pursuant to section 2602, subsection 4, paragraph D.

14 **Sec. 2. 29-A MRSA §2602, sub-§4, ¶¶B and C**, as enacted by 1997,
16 c. 750, Pt. A, §3, are amended to read:

18 B. Of the fines and forfeitures collected for traffic
20 infractions under sections 511, 2356, 2360, 2380, 2387 and
22 2388, 7% accrues to the General Fund, 6% accrues to the Law
24 Enforcement Agency Reimbursement Fund and the balance
26 accrues to the General Highway Fund; and

28 C. Of the fines and forfeitures collected for violations
30 other than traffic infractions under sections 511, 2356,
32 2360, 2380, 2387 and 2388, only \$5 or 13%, whichever is
34 greater, accrues to the General Fund and the balance accrues
36 to the Highway Fund; and

38 **Sec. 3. 29-A MRSA §2602, sub-§4, ¶D** is enacted to read:

40 D. Beginning January 1, 2004, and every 2 years after that
42 date through January 1, 2012, the fines and forfeitures
44 collected under section 103 and 2604 must be increased by
46 5%. A percentage of the revenue received from the fines and
48 forfeitures must be remitted to the law enforcement agency
 that issued the summons and complaint for the traffic
 infraction as follows:

(1) Ten percent, 2004;

(2) Twenty percent, 2006;

(3) Thirty percent, 2008;

(4) Forty percent, 2010; and

(5) Fifty percent, 2012.

2 **Sec. 4. 29-A MRSA. §2604.** as amended by PL 1995, c. 584, Pt.
B. §11, is further amended by adding at the end a new paragraph
to read:

4
6 Fines established under this section are subject to increase
pursuant to section 2602, subsection 4, paragraph D.

8
SUMMARY

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12 This bill increases traffic fines by 5% every 2 years from
January 1, 2004 through January 1, 2012. The bill also remits a
percentage of the fines collected for traffic infractions to the
14 law enforcement agency that issued the summons and complaint.
Beginning January 1, 2004, the percentage remitted to the law
16 enforcement agency increases by 10% every 2 years with the last
increase on January 1, 2012.