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S.P. 530

In Senate, April 14, 2003

An Act Concerning Technical Changes to the Tax Laws

Submitted by the Department of Administrative and Financial Services pursuant to Joint Rule 204.

Reference to the Committee on Taxation suggested and ordered printed.

XO Brian

JOY J. O'BRIEN Secretary of the Senate

Presented by Senator STANLEY of Penobscot. Cosponsored by Representative LEMOINE of Old Orchard Beach and Senator: STRIMLING of Cumberland, Representative: McGOWAN of Pittsfield.

2	Be it enacted by the People of the State of Maine as follows:
4	Sec. 1. 36 MRSA §145 is enacted to read:
• 6	<u>§145. Protective claim for refund</u>
8	1. Right to file protective claim. A person who has paid any tax imposed by this Title or administered by the State Tax
	Assessor may file a protective claim for refund. As used in this
10	<u>section, "protective claim for refund" means a refund claim filed</u> in order to protect the taxpayer's potential right to a refund of
12	tax in the event that a related contingency occurs after the expiration of the period otherwise provided by this Title for
14	filing a refund claim for the tax and period in question. The protective claim for refund must be filed with the assessor in
16	writing before the expiration of the otherwise applicable statute of limitations. The provisions of this section apply only to
18	that portion of a refund claim that is dependent upon the occurrence of the related contingency.
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22	2. Claim may be held open. At the discretion of the assessor, a protective claim for refund may be held without decision until the expiration of 4 years from the filing of the
24	protective claim for refund or until the occurrence of the related contingency, whichever is earlier. The decision of the
26	assessor not to hold a protective claim for refund without decision is not subject to review under section 151. While a
28	protective claim for refund is being held without decision, the assessor may at any time require from the claimant additional
30	information about the related contingency or evidence in support of continuing to hold the protective claim for refund open.
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34	3. Taxpayer to file final claim, A final claim for refund must be filed within the earlier of the following dates:
36	A. Ninety days from the occurrence of the related contingency;
38	B. Ninety days from the taxpayer's receipt of notice of
40	denial of the protective claim for refund; or
42	C. Four years from the date of the filing of the protective claim for refund.
44	The the volcted continuous is a puling by an administrative
46	If the related contingency is a ruling by an administrative agency or court, the ruling has occurred for purposes of this contion only when the taxpayor has no further right to
48	section only when the taxpayer has no further right to administrative or judicial review of that ruling. The final claim for refund must be filed with the assessor in writing and
50	must state the specific grounds upon which it is founded. If the

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assessor denies the final claim for refund in whole or in part,
the taxpayer may request reconsideration of the denial pursuant to section 151. For purposes of determining the amount of
interest to be paid on any balance refunded to the taxpayer, the final claim for refund is considered to be the return listing the
overpayment.

Sec. 2. 36 MRSA §151, first ¶, as amended by PL 2001, c. 583, $\S1$, is further amended to read:

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Any person who is subject to an assessment by the State Tax Assessor or entitled by law to receive notice of a determination 12 of the assessor and who is aggrieved as a result of that action 14 may request in writing, within 30 days after receipt of notice of the assessment or the determination, reconsideration by the assessor of the assessment or the determination. 16 If a person receives notice of an assessment and does not file a request for 18 reconsideration within the-specified-time-period 30 days after receipt of notice, the assessor may not reconsider the assessment 20 pursuant to this section and no review is available in Superior Court regardless of whether the taxpayer subsequently makes 22 payment and requests a refund. If a person receives notice of a denial of refund and does not file a request for reconsideration 24 within 30 days after receipt of notice, the denial of refund constitutes final agency action for which no review is available in Superior Court, and the person may not submit a subsequent 26 claim for the same refund.

- Sec. 3. 36 MRSA §191, sub-§2, ¶R, as repealed and replaced by 30 PL 1995, c. 625, Pt. A, §47, is amended to read:
- R. The disclosure to the Department of Human Services, Bureau of Medical Services of information relating to the administration and collection of the tax imposed by chapter 369 and chapter 375;
- Sec. 4. 36 MRSA §191, sub-§2, ¶R, as amended by PL 2001, c. 38 714, Pt. CC, §2 and affected by §8, is further amended to read:
- R. The disclosure to the Department of Human Services or the Department of Behavioral and Developmental Services of information relating to the administration and collection of the tax imposed by chapter 373 and chapter 375;
- Sec. 5. 36 MRSA §191, sub-§2, ¶Y, as amended by PL 2001, c. 439, Pt. L, $\S7$, is further amended to read:
- 48 Y. The disclosure by the State Tax Assessor, upon request in writing of any individual against whom an assessment has
 50 been made pursuant to section 177, subsection 1, of the following information:

- 2 (1) Information regarding the underlying tax liability to the extent necessary to apprise the individual of
 4 the basis of the assessment;
- 6 (2) The name of any other individual against whom an assessment has been made for the same underlying tax 8 debt; and
- 10 (3) The general nature of any steps taken by the assessor to collect the underlying tax debt from any
 12 other individuals and the amount collected; and
- 14 Sec. 6. 36 MRSA §191, sub-§2, ¶Z, as enacted by PL 2001, c. 439, Pt. L, §8, is amended to read:

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- Z. The disclosure to the Treasurer of State when necessary
 for the performance of the Treasurer of State's official duties as administrator under Title 33, chapter 41 of the
 following information:
- 22 (1) The current mailing address for a taxpayer for purposes of returning unclaimed or abandoned property
 24 to the rightful owner or heir; and
- 26 (2) The names and mailing addresses of all Maine corporate income tax filers in an electronic medium prescribed by the State Tax Assessor.
- 30 Sec. 7. 36 MRSA §191, sub-§2, ¶¶AA and BB are enacted to read:
- AA. The disclosure by employees of the bureau to designated representatives of the Finance Authority of Maine of information required to ensure that recipients of certain benefits under Title 20-A, chapter 417-E are eligible to
 receive such benefits; and
- BB. The disclosure to an authorized representative of the Department of Human Services, Office of Head Start and Child
 Care of taxpayer information directly relating to the certification of investments eligible for or the eligibility
 of a taxpayer for the guality child care investment credit provided by section 5219-0.
 - Sec. 8. 36 MRSA §1752, sub-§9 is repealed.
- Sec. 9. 36 MRSA §1752, sub-§11, ¶B, as repealed and replaced by PL 1999, c. 708, §23, is amended to read:

- B. "Retail sale" does not include:
 - Any casual sale;

(2) Any sale by a personal representative in the
 settlement of an estate, unless the sale is made
 through a retailer, or unless the sale is made in the
 continuation or operation of a business;

10 (3) The sale, to a person engaged in the business of renting automobiles, of automobiles, integral parts of automobiles or accessories to automobiles, for rental or for use in an automobile rented on a short-term basis;

- 16 (4) The sale, to a person engaged in the business of renting audio or video tapes media and audio or video
 18 equipment, of audio or video tapes media or audio or video equipment for rental;
- (5) The sale, to a person engaged in the business of
 22 renting or leasing automobiles, of automobiles for
 rental or lease for one year or more;
- (6) The sale, to a person engaged in the business of
 providing cable television services, of cable converter
 boxes and remote-control units for rental or lease; or

(7) The sale, to a person engaged in the business of30 renting furniture, of furniture for rental.

Sec. 10. 36 MRSA §1752, sub-§17-A, ¶K, as amended by PL 2001, c. 396, §22, is further amended to read:

K. Rental of furniture, audio **tapes <u>media</u> and audio** equipment pursuant to a rental-purchase agreement as defined in Title 9-A, section 11-105.

Sec. 11. 36 MRSA §1754-A, as enacted by PL 1991, c. 780, Pt. 40 CCC, §2, is amended to read:

42 §1754-A. Registration of owners of space temporarily rented as retail space

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A person who rents or leases property-and-has <u>space to</u> more than 4 persons renting-or-leasing-space at one location for less than a 12-month period for the purpose of retail sales shall register with the State Tax Assessor. The form for application for registration and the registration certificates must be prescribed and furnished free <u>of charge</u> by the State-Tax-Assesser

assessor. For each location where more than 4 persons rent or 2 lease space for less than 12 months from the same person, the State---Tax---Assesser shall issue а assessor registration certificate, which must be conspicuously displayed at that 4 location. The-person-shall-provide-the-State-Tax Assessor-by By the 15th of each month following any month in which rental or 6 lease activity has occurred, the person shall provide to the addresses and 8 the names, <u>sales</u> tax registration assessor certificate numbers of those persons who have rented space during 10 the previous month. Informational Information returns must be prescribed and furnished free of charge by the State-Tax-Assesser 12 assessor. Returns required under this section must be treated as returns filed under this Title and are subject to section 187 187-B. 14

Sec. 12. 36 MRSA §1814, sub-§1, as enacted by PL 1977, c. 316, §1, is amended to read:

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Tax liability. Whenever the tax collected by a retailer 1. 20 for any period exceeds that provided by law, whether the excess is attributable to the collection of tax on exempt or nontaxable 22 transactions or erroneous computation, the total amount collected, excluding only that portion of the excess which that 24 has been returned or credited to the person or persons from whom it was collected, shall-eenstitute constitutes a tax liability of 26 the retailer and-shall that must be reported and paid at the time and in the manner provided by sections 1951 1951-A and 1952.

Sec. 13. 36 MRSA §1861-A, as amended by PL 2001, c. 583, §12, 30 is further amended to read:

32 §1861-A. Reporting use tax on individual income tax returns

34 The assessor shall provide that individuals report use tax on items with a purchase price of \$1,000 or less on their Maine individual income tax returns. Taxpayers are required to attest 36 to the amount of their use tax liability for the period of the tax return. Alternatively, they may elect to report an amount 38 that is .04% of their Maine adjusted gross income. The-table amount-does-not-relate-to-items-with-a-purchase-price-in-excess 40 of- \$1,000---Liability-arising-from-such-items-must-be-added-to Upon subsequent review, if use tax liability 42 the-table-amount. for the period of the return exceeds the amount of liability 44 arising from the return, a credit of the amount of liability arising from the return is allowed subject to the limitation set out in this section. The credit is limited to the amount of 46 liability arising from the return for items with a sale price of 48 \$1,000 or less and may be applied only against a liability determined on review with regard to items with a sale price of 50 \$1,000 or less. Use tax on any item with a purchase price of more than \$1,000 must be reported in accordance with section 52 <u>1951-A.</u>

Sec. 14. 36 MRSA §1952, as amended by PL 1981, c. 364, \S 27, is further amended to read:

§1952. Payment of tax

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The taxes imposed by chapters 211 to 225 shall-be on sales of tangible personal property and taxable services are due and payable at the time of the sale;-or,-in-the case of tax-on-rental for--living--quarters--or--rental--of--automobiles--rented--on--a short-term-basis,--at-the-time-the-rental--is-payable. Upon such terms and conditions as the <u>State</u> Tax Assessor may prescribe, he the assessor may permit a postponement of payment to a date not later than the date when <u>on which</u> the sales so taxed are required to be reported. For-cause,-the-State-Tax-Assessor-may-abate-all of-any-part-of-the-taxes.

18 Sec. 15. 36 MRSA §2902, sub-§4, as enacted by PL 1967, c. 94, §4, is repealed.

Sec. 16. 36 MRSA §2909, as amended by PL 1965, c. 479, §1, is repealed and the following enacted in it place:

24 §2909. Refund of entire tax paid by certain common carriers

26 A person engaged in furnishing common carrier passenger service under an operating authority license issued pursuant to Title 29-A, section 552 is entitled to reimbursement of the tax 28 paid on internal combustion engine fuel used by that person in 30 locally encouraged vehicles. For purposes of calculating reimbursement due pursuant to this section, internal combustion 32 engine fuel used in a person's locally encouraged vehicles is presumed to bear the same proportional relationship to internal combustion engine fuel used in all of the person's passenger 34 vehicles that the person's commutation fare revenue derived from 36 service provided by locally encouraged vehicles bears to the person's total passenger fare revenue. "Commutation fare 38 revenue" means revenue attributable to fares of 60¢ or less and fares paid for commutation or season tickets for single trips of 40 less than 30 miles or for commutation tickets for one month or less. "Total passenger fare revenue" means all revenue 42 attributable to the claimant's passenger operations. "Locally encouraged vehicles" means buses upon which no excise tax is collected under section 1483, subsection 13. 44

Applications for refunds must be filed with the State Tax
 Assessor, on a form prescribed by the assessor and accompanied by
 the original invoices showing those purchases, within 9 months
 from the date of purchase. A refund may not be issued under this
 section unless the claimant's commutation fare revenue derived

 during the calendar guarter for which the refund is claimed is at
 least 60% of the claimant's total passenger fare revenue derived during that calendar guarter.

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Sec. 17. 36 MRSA §3203-C, as enacted by PL 2001, c. 688, §7, 6 is amended to read:

8 §3203-C. Inventory tax

10 On the date that any increase in the rate of tax imposed under this chapter takes effect, an inventory tax is imposed upon 12 all distillates that are held in inventory by a distributor supplier or retail dealer as of the end of the day prior to that date on which the tax imposed by section 3203, subsection 1 has 14 The inventory tax is computed by multiplying the been paid. number of gallons of tax-paid fuel held in inventory by the 16 difference between the tax rate already paid and the new tax Distributors Suppliers and retail dealers that hold such 18 rate. tax-paid inventory shall make payment of the inventory tax on or 20 before the 15th day of the next calendar month, accompanied by a form prescribed and furnished by the State Tax Assessor. In the event of a decrease in the tax rate, the distributor supplier or 22 retail dealer is entitled to a refund or credit, which must be claimed on a form designed and furnished by the assessor. 24

Sec. 18. 36 MRSA §3215, as amended by PL 1985, c. 127, §1, is repealed and the following enacted in its place:

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§3215. Refund of taxes for certain common carriers

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A person engaged in furnishing common carrier passenger 32 service under an operating authority license issued pursuant to Title 29-A, section 552 is entitled to reimbursement of the tax paid on special fuel used by that person in locally encouraged 34 vehicles. For purposes of calculating reimbursement due pursuant 36 to this section, special fuel used in a person's locally encouraged vehicles is presumed to bear the same proportional relationship to special fuel used in all of the person's 38 passenger vehicles that the person's commutation fare revenue derived from service provided by locally encouraged vehicles 40 bears to the person's total passenger fare revenue. "Commutation 42 fare revenue" means revenue attributable to fares of 60¢ or less and fares paid for commutation or season tickets for single trips of less than 30 miles or for commutation tickets for one month or 44 less. "Total passenger fare revenue" means all revenue attributable to the claimant's passenger operations. "Locally 46 encouraged vehicles" means buses upon which no excise tax is collected under section 1483, subsection 13. 48

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Applications for refunds must be filed with the State Tax

Assessor, on a form prescribed by the assessor and accompanied by
the original invoices showing those purchases, within 9 months from the date of purchase. A refund may not be issued under this
section unless the claimant's commutation fare revenue derived during the calendar guarter for which the refund is claimed is at
least 60% of the claimant's total passenger fare revenue derived during that calendar guarter.

Sec. 19. 36 MRSA §3218, as amended by PL 1985, c. 127, §1, is repealed and the following enacted in its place:

12 §3218. Refund of tax in certain cases, time limit

A person who purchases and uses special fuel for any use 14 other than operation of a registered motor vehicle on the 16 highways of this State, and who has paid the tax imposed by this chapter on that fuel, is entitled to reimbursement in the amount 18 of the tax paid, less 1¢, upon presenting to the State Tax Assessor a sworn statement accompanied by the original invoices 20 or other evidence as the assessor may require. The statement must show the total amount of special fuel so purchased and used by that person other than in the operation of registered motor 22 vehicles on the highways of this State and in the operation of 24 aircraft. Applications for refunds must be filed with the assessor within 15 months from the date of purchase.

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A monthly refund application on a form prescribed by the assessor may be filed at the close of any month to claim a refund pursuant to this section. Interest must be paid at the rate determined pursuant to section 186, calculated from the date of receipt of the monthly claim, for all proper claims not paid within 30 days of receipt. Nothing in this paragraph may be construed to relieve the applicant from filing quarterly reports as prescribed in section 3209.

- All fuel qualifying for a refund under this section is
 subject to the use tax imposed by chapter 215.
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- Sec. 20. 36 MRSA §3219-A, sub-§1, ¶C, as enacted by PL 1995, 40 c. 271, §11, is amended to read:
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C. Inspect the books and records of any supplier, user, distributor retailer or importer;

Sec. 21. 36 MRSA §3235, as amended by PL 1999, c. 414, §32, 46 is further amended to read:

- 48 §3235. Tax a debt; recovery; preference
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The taxes, interest and penalties imposed by chapters 7,

2 personal debt of the supplier, distributor, importer,--meter earrier or user to the State, recoverable in any court of competent jurisdiction in a civil action in the name of the 4 State, and have preference in any distribution of the assets of the taxpayer, whether in bankruptcy, insolvency or otherwise. 6 The proceeds of any judgment obtained must be paid to the State Tax Assessor. 8 Sec. 22. 36 MRSA §4070, as amended by PL 1991, c. 546, §28, 10 is repealed and the following enacted in its place: 12 §4070. Extension of time for filing return 14 1. General. The State Tax Assessor may grant a reasonable extension of time for filing a return required by this chapter, 16 on terms and conditions the assessor may require, as long as payment reasonably estimating the tax due has been made on or 18 before the original payment due date. Except as provided in 20 subsection 2, an extension for filing any return may not exceed 8 months. 22 2. Federal extension. When an extension of time is granted 24 within which to file a federal estate tax return, the due date for filing the Maine estate tax return is automatically extended 26 for an equivalent period, as long as payment reasonably estimating the tax due has been made on or before the original 28 payment due date. Sec. 23. 36 MRSA §4071, sub-§1, ¶E, as enacted by PL 1981, c. 30 451, §7, is amended to read: 32 Ε. The amount of the federal credit for-state-death-taxes allowable-to-the-decedent's-estate. 34 Sec. 24. 36 MRSA §4641, sub-§1-A, ¶¶A and B, as enacted by PL 36 2001, c. 559, Pt. I, §1 and affected by §15, are amended to read: 38 In the case of a corporation, "controlling interest" Α. 40 means either--50%--er more than 50% of the total combined voting power of all classes of stock of the corporation entitled to vote or $50\%-\Theta r$ more than 50% of the capital, 42 profits or beneficial interest in the voting stock of the 44 corporation. In the case of a partnership, association, trust or Β. 46 other entity, "controlling interest" means $50\%-\Theta$ more than 50% of the capital, profits or beneficial interest in the 48 partnership, association, trust or other entity.

451,--453 and 459, from the time the--same they are due, are

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Sec. 25. 36 MRSA §4641-D, 2nd ¶ from the end, as amended by P&SL 1975, c. 78, §21, is further amended to read:

The register of deeds shall transmit both copies of the declaration of value to the State Tax Assessor not later than 40 days from the date of recordation of the deed subject to the tax or, in the case of a transfer of a controlling interest subject to tax under this chapter, no later than the 10th day of the month following the month in which the report of the transfer is received by the register of deeds.

Sec. 26. 36 MRSA §4641-E, 2nd ¶, as amended by PL 2001, c. 559, Pt. I, §11 and affected by §15, is further amended to read:

16 Within 3 years of the recording of a deed subject to the tax imposed by this chapter or of the date on which a transfer of a 18 controlling interest in an entity subject to taxation under this chapter is reported to the register of deeds, the State Tax 20 Assessor may examine any books, papers, records or memoranda of the grantor or grantee bearing upon the amount of tax payable, and may enforce that right of examination by subpoena. If the 22 assessor determines that there is a deficiency of taxes due under 24 this chapter, such deficiency must be assessed, together with interest and penalties, with notice to the persons liable, but no such assessment may be made more than 3 years after the date of 26 recording or transfer.

Sec. 27. 36 MRSA §4831, sub-§§2-A and 2-B, as enacted by PL 1989, c. 927, §3, are repealed.

Sec. 28. 36 MRSA §4832, sub-§1, as amended by PL 1989, c. 927, $\S5$, is further amended to read:

Imposition. A fee is imposed on the retail sale in this 1. 36 State of new tires, and new lead-acid batteries, --new--majer appliances, -- new -- major -- furniture -- items, -- new -- bathtubs -- and -- new mattresses --- The -fee -is in the amount of \$1 per tire or lead - acid 38 battery and--\$5--for-major--appliances,--major--furniture--items, 40 bathtubs-and-mattresses. Additionally-fees A fee in the same amount is imposed on the storage, use or other 42 consumption in this State of tires, and lead-acid batteries, majer-appliances,-major-furniture-items,-bathtubs-and-mattresses purchased new in this State by the user or purchased $\Theta ut-\Theta f$ 44 outside the State by the user unless either--of the fees fee 46 imposed by this section has been paid.

48 Sec. 29. 36 MRSA §4832, sub-§1-A, as enacted by PL 1995, c. 368, Pt. NN, §2, is repealed.

Sec. 30. 36 MRSA §4833, 2nd ¶, as amended by PL 1989, c. 927, 2 $\S5$, is repealed. 4 Sec. 31. 36 MRSA §5121, as amended by PL 1995, c. 281, §26, is further amended to read: 6 §5121. Maine taxable income 8 The Maine taxable income of a resident individual ef-this State is equal to the individual's federal adjusted gross income 10 as defined by federal-law, the Code with the modifications, and 12 less the deductions and personal exemptions provided in this chapter. 14 Sec. 32. 36 MRSA §5122, sub-§1, ¶A, as corrected by RR 1991, c. 2, §136, is amended to read: 16 18 Α. Interest or dividends on obligations or securities of any state other than this State, or of a political 20 subdivision or authority of any state other than this State and--its--political--subdivisions--and--authorities, to the 22 extent that interest or those dividends are not included in the recipient's federal adjusted gross income; 24 Sec. 33. 36 MRSA §5122, sub-§1, ¶J, as amended by PL 2001, c. 559, Pt. GG, §8 and affected by §26, is further amended to read: 26 28 J. The amount claimed as a business-expense deduction in determining federal adjusted gross income that is included 30 in the investment credit base for the high-technology investment tax credit; 32 Sec. 34. 36 MRSA §5122, sub-§2, ¶A, as amended by PL 2001, c. 177, $\S1$, is further amended to read: 34 36 Α. Interest or dividends on obligations of the United States and its territories and possessions or of any 38 authority, commission or instrumentality of the United States, to the extent includable that interest or those 40 dividends are included in federal adjusted gross income for federal-income-tax-purposes, but exempt from state income taxes under the laws of the United States, -- provided -- that 42 the. The amount subtracted is <u>must be</u> decreased by any expenses incurred in the production of the interest or 44 dividend income to the extent that these those expenses, including amortizable bond premiums, are deductible deducted 46 in determining federal adjusted gross income; 48 Sec. 35. 36 MRSA §5122, sub-§2, ¶B, as amended by PL 1997,

c. 127, \S 2, is further amended to read:

B. An amount equal to the taxpayer's federal new--jobs
 eredit-or work opportunity credit as determined under the laws of the United States;

- Sec. 36. 36 MRSA §5122, sub-§2, ¶J, as amended by PL 2001, c. 559, Pt. GG, §11 and affected by §26, is further amended to read:
- J. To the extent included in federal adjusted gross income, any amount constituting a qualified withdrawal distribution
 from an account established pursuant to Title 20-A, chapter 417-E and used for paying higher education expenses of the designated beneficiary of that account;
- 16 Sec. 37. 36 MRSA §5122, sub-§2, ¶M, as amended by PL 2001, c. 396, §34 and affected by §50, is further amended to read:
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- M. An--amount,--for For each <u>individual who is a primary</u> recipient of benefits under an employee retirement plan, <u>an</u> <u>amount</u> that is the lesser of:
- (1) Six thousand dollars reduced by the total amount
 of the primary-recipient's individual's social security
 benefits and railroad retirement benefits paid by the
 United States, but not less than \$0. The reduction
 does not apply to benefits paid under a military
 retirement plan; or
- 30 (2) The aggregate of benefits received-by-the-primary
 recipient under employee retirement plans and included
 32 in the individual's federal adjusted gross income.
- 34 For purposes of this paragraph, "primary recipient" means the individual upon whose earnings the employee retirement 36 plan benefits are based or the surviving spouse of that purposes of this paragraph, "employee individual. For 38 retirement plan" means a state, federal or military retirement plan or any other retirement benefit plan 40 established and maintained by an employer for the benefit of its employees under Section 401(a), Section 403 or Section 42 457(b) of the Code. "Employee retirement plan" does not include an individual retirement account under Section 408 44 of the Code, a Roth IRA under Section 408A of the Code, a rollover individual retirement account, simplified а 46 employee pension under Section 408(k) of the Code or an ineligible deferred compensation plan under Section 457(f) 48 For purposes of this paragraph, "military of the Code. retirement plan" means benefits received as a result of

service in the active or reserve components of the Army, Navy, Air Force, Marines or Coast Guard;

Sec. 38. 36 MRSA §5124-A, first ¶, as repealed and replaced by PL 1989, c. 495, §2 and affected by c. 596, Pt. J, §7, is amended to read:

8 The standard deduction of <u>a</u> resident taxpayers--shall <u>individual must</u> conform to the <u>allowable--federal</u> standard 10 deduction of <u>to which</u> the taxpayer <u>individual is entitled under</u> <u>the Code</u>.

Sec. 39. 36 MRSA §5125, as amended by PL 1999, c. 708, §37, 14 is further amended to read:

16 §5125. Itemized deductions

18 1. General. If-an An individual who has claimed itemized deductions from federal adjusted gross income in determining the individual's federal taxable income for the taxable year,--the individual-is-entitled-in-determining-the-tax-under-this-Part-te
 22 may claim an itemized deduction-amount-consistent-with deductions from Maine adjusted gross income as provided in this section.

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Spouses, both of whom are required to file 2. Spouses. 26 returns under this Part, are allowed to claim itemized deductions from Maine adjusted gross income only if both do so. The Their total of itemized deductions allowable--for--determining from 28 federal income-tax adjusted gross income, as adjusted modified by 30 this--section subsection 3, may be taken by either spouse or divided between them, as they may elect, if their federal income 32 tax is determined on a joint return but their tax pursuant-to under this Part is determined on separate returns.

3. Amount. The sum of an individual's allowable-federal
 36 itemized deductions <u>from federal adjusted gross income</u> must be:

- A. Reduced by any amount representing <u>attributable to</u> income taxes imposed by this State or any other taxing
 jurisdiction <u>and--interest--or--expenses--incurred--in--the</u> production-of-income-exempt-from-tax-under-this-Part;
- B. Increased by any amount of interest or expense incurred
 44 in the production of income taxable under this Part but
 exempt from federal income tax, -and -which has that was not
 46 been deducted in determining the individual's federal
 adjusted-gross taxable income; and
- C. Reduced by any amount of deduction related <u>attributable</u> 50 to income taxable to financial institutions under chapter 819-;

- 2 D. Reduced by any amount attributable to interest or expenses incurred in the production of income exempt from 4 tax under this Part; and
- E. Reduced by the amount attributable to any contribution that qualified for and was actually utilized as a credit
 under section 5216-C.
- 10 Sec. 40. 36 MRSA §5142, sub-§1, as amended by PL 1993, c. 478, §1, is further amended to read:
- General. The <u>Maine</u> adjusted gross income of a nonresident <u>individual</u> derived from <u>or connected with</u> sources within <u>in</u> this State is the sum of the following:
- The net amount of items of income, gain, loss, and Α. 18 deduction entering into the nonresident individual's federal adjusted gross income that are derived from or connected 20 with sources in this State including (i) the nonresident's individual's distributive share of partnership or limited liability company income and deductions determined under 22 section 5192, (ii) the nonresident's individual's share of 24 estate or trust income and deductions determined under section 5176, and (iii) the nonresident's--distributive 26 individual's pro rata share of the income of an electing small-business S corporation for-federal-income tax-purposes 28 derived from or connected with sources within in this State;

B. The portion of the modifications described in section 5122, subsections 1 and 2 that relate relates to income derived from or connected with sources in this State, including any modifications attributable to the nonresident individual as a partner of a partnership, shareholder of an S corporation, member of a limited liability company or beneficiary of an estate or trust; and

- 38 C. Proceeds from any Maine State Lottery or Tri-state Lotto tickets purchased in this State.
- Sec. 41. 36 MRSA §5160, as amended by PL 1993, c. 395, §19, 42 is further amended to read:
- 44 §5160. Imposition of tax

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- 46 The tax is imposed, at the rates provided by section 5111 for resident <u>single</u> individuals, upon the <u>Maine</u> taxable income of 48 estates and trusts. The tax must be paid by the fiduciary.
- 50 Sec. 42. 36 MRSA §5163, as enacted by P&SL 1969, c. 154, §F1, is amended to read:

2	§5163. Maine taxable income of resident estate or trust
4	The <u>Maine</u> taxable income of a resident estate or trust means is equal to its federal taxable income modified by the addition
6	or subtraction,-as-the-case-may-be, of its share of the fiduciary adjustment determined under section 5164.
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0	Sec. 43. 36 MRSA §5175, as enacted by P&SL 1969, c. 154, §F1, is amended to read:
2	§5175. Maine taxable income of a nonresident estate or trust
4	1. General rules. For purposes of this chapter:
6	A. Items of income, gain, loss and deduction mean those derived from or connected with sources in this State .;
8	B. Items of income, gain, loss and deduction entering into the definition of federal distributable net income includes
2	<u>include</u> such items from another estate or trust of which the first estate or trust is a beneficiary , and
4 6	C. The source of items of income, gain, loss or deduction shall <u>must</u> be determined under regulations prescribed by the assessor in accordance with the general rules in section
8	5142 as if the estate or trust were a nonresident individual.
0	2. Determination of Maine taxable income. The <u>Maine</u> taxable income of a nonresident estate or trust eensists-of+ is equal to
2	its share of items of income, gain, loss and deduction that enter into the federal definition of distributable net income increased
4	or reduced by the amount of any items of income, gain, loss or deduction that are recognized for federal income tax purposes but
б	excluded from the federal definition of distributable net income of the estate or trust less the amount of the deduction for its
8	federal exemption.
0	AIts-share -of-items-of-income,-gain,-loss -and-deduction which-enter-into-the-federal-definition-of-distributable-net
2	income,
	BIncreased - orreducedbytheamountofanyitemsof
•	income,gain,lossordeductionwhichare-recognizedfor federalincome-taxpurposesbutexcluded-fromthe-federal
5	definicionofdistributablenetincomeoftheestateof truct/
в	
	CLesstheamountofthedeductionforitsfederal
)	exemption.

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Sec. 44. 36 MRSA §5200-A, sub-§1, ¶I, as amended by PL 1997, c. 2 746, $\S7$ and affected by \$24, is further amended to read: 4 Interest or dividends on obligations or securities of Ι. any state other than this State, or of a political 6 subdivision or authority, of any state other than this State and--its--political--subdivisions--and--authorities, to the 8 extent that interest or those dividends are not included in the taxpayer's federal taxable income; 10 Sec. 45. 36 MRSA §5200-A, sub-§1, ¶K, as amended by PL 2001, 12 c. 559, Pt. GG, §13 and affected by §26, is further amended to read: 14 16 Κ. The amount claimed as a business-expense deduction in determining federal taxable income that is included in the investment credit <u>base</u> for the high-technology investment 18 tax credit; 20 Sec. 46. 36 MRSA §5200-A, sub-§2, ¶A, as enacted by PL 1981, c. 704, §4, is amended to read: 22 24 Α. Income which included in the taxpayer's federal taxable income that, under the laws of the United States, is exempt 26 from taxation by states; Sec. 47. 36 MRSA §5200-A, sub-§2, ¶C, as amended by PL 2001, 28 c. 177, $\S3$, is further amended to read: 30 An amount equal to the taxpayer's federal new--jobs C. 32 eredit-or work opportunity credit as determined under the laws of the United States; 34 Sec. 48. 36 MRSA §5200-A, sub-§2, ¶F, as amended by PL 1989, 36 c. 880, Pt. G, §7, is further amended to read: 38 F. Income this State is prohibited from taxing under the Constitution of Maine or the United States Constitution, 40 provided-that the to the extent that it is included in the taxpayer's federal taxable income, The amount subtracted 42 must be decreased by any expenses incurred in production of that income to-the-extent that these-expenses-are-deductible 44 were deducted in determining federal taxable income; 46 Sec. 49. 36 MRSA §5217-A, as amended by PL 1991, c. 591, Pt. N, $\S16$ and affected by \$17, is further amended to read: 48 §5217-A. Income tax paid to other taxing jurisdiction 50

A resident individual is allowed a credit against the tax otherwise due under this Part, excluding the tax imposed by 2 section 5203-A, for the amount of income tax imposed on that individual for the taxable year by another state of the United 4 States, a political subdivision of any such state, the District of Columbia or any political subdivision of a foreign country 6 that is analogous to a state of the United States with respect to 8 income subject to tax under this Part that is derived from sources in that taxing jurisdiction also-subject-to-tax-under 10 this-Part. In determining whether income is derived from sources in another jurisdiction, the assessor may not employ the law of the other jurisdiction but shall instead assume that a statute 12 equivalent to section 5142 applies in that jurisdiction. The 14 credit, for any of the specified taxing jurisdictions, may not exceed the proportion of the tax otherwise due under this Part, 16 excluding the tax imposed by section 5203-A, that the amount of the taxpayer's Maine adjusted gross income derived from sources 18 in that taxing jurisdiction bears to the taxpayer's entire Maine adjusted gross income; provided except that, when a credit is 20 claimed for taxes paid to both a state and a political subdivision of a state, the total credit allowable for those taxes does not exceed the proportion of the tax otherwise due 22 under this Part, excluding the tax imposed by section 5203-A, 24 that the amount of the taxpayer's Maine adjusted gross income derived from sources in the other state bears to the taxpayer's 26 entire Maine adjusted gross income.

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Sec. 50. 36 MRSA §5218, as repealed and replaced by PL 2001, c. 396, §38, is amended to read:

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§5218. Income tax credit for child care expenses

Resident taxpayer. A resident individual is allowed a
 credit against the tax otherwise due under this Part in the amount of 25% of the federal tax credit allowable for child and
 dependent care expenses in the same tax year.

38 2. Nonresident taxpayer. A nonresident er--part-year resident individual is allowed a credit against the tax otherwise
40 due under this Part in the amount of 25% of the federal tax credit allowable for child and dependent care expenses multiplied
42 by the ratio of the individual's Maine adjusted gross income, as defined in section 5102, subsection 1-C, paragraph B, to the nenresident's individual's entire federal adjusted gross income, as modified by section 5122.

2-A. Part-year resident taxpayer. An individual who files
 a return as a part-year resident in accordance with section
 5224-A is allowed a credit against the tax otherwise due under
 this Part in the amount of 25% of the federal tax credit

allowable for child and dependent care expenses multiplied by a ratio, the numerator of which is the individual's Maine adjusted 2 gross income as defined in section 5102, subsection 1-C, paragraph A for that portion of the taxable year during which the 4 individual was a resident plus the individual's Maine adjusted gross income as defined in section 5102, subsection 1-C, 6 paragraph B for that portion of the taxable year during which the individual was a nonresident, and the denominator of which is the 8 individual's entire federal adjusted gross income, as modified by 10 section 5122. Quality child care services. The credit provided by 12 3. subsections 1 and, 2 and 2-A doubles in amount if the child care

14 expenses were incurred through the use of quality child care services. -- As-used -in-this-section, -unless the context-otherwise
16 indicates, -- "quality - child - care - services" - has - the - meaning - set forth as defined in section 5219-Q, subsection 1.
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4. Refund. The credit allowed by this section may result20 in a refund of up to \$500.

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Sec. 51. 36 MRSA §5219-A, sub-§2, as enacted by PL 1999, c. 521, Pt. B, §7 and affected by §11, is amended to read:

Nonresident taxpayer. A nonresident er--part-year
 resident individual is allowed a credit against the tax otherwise due under this Part equal to 20% of any credit the individual
 received for the same taxable year under the Code, Section 22 multiplied by the ratio of the individual's Maine adjusted gross
 income, as defined in section 5102, subsection 1-C, paragraph B, to the nenresident's individual's entire federal adjusted gross
 income, as modified by section 5122. In no case may this credit reduce the Maine income tax to less than zero.

Sec. 52. 36 MRSA §5219-A, sub-§3 is enacted to read:

3. Part-year resident taxpayer. An individual who files a 38 return as a part-year resident in accordance with section 5224-A is allowed a credit against the tax otherwise due under this Part 40 equal to 20% of any credit the individual received for the same taxable year under the Code, Section 22 multiplied by a ratio, 42 the numerator of which is the individual's Maine adjusted gross income as defined in section 5102, subsection 1-C, paragraph A 44 for that portion of the taxable year during which the individual was a resident plus the individual's Maine adjusted gross income 46 as defined in section 5102, subsection 1-C, paragraph B for that portion of the taxable year during which the individual was a nonresident, and the denominator of which is the individual's 48 entire federal adjusted gross income, as modified by section 50 5122. In no case may this credit reduce the Maine income tax to less than zero.

2 Sec. 53. 36 MRSA §5219-N, sub-§§1 and 3, as enacted by PL 1997,
 c. 557, Pt. E, §1 and affected by §2 and Pt. G, §1, are amended
 4 to read:

6 1. Generally. Except as etherwise provided by-this-section in subsection 2, an individual whose state <u>Maine</u> taxable income determined as if the individual were a resident individual for the entire year is \$2,000 or less is allowed a credit equal to the - amount--of the tax otherwise imposed on that individual by this Part. In no case may the <u>this</u> credit allowed-by-this
12 section reduce an--individual's--state <u>the Maine</u> income tax liability to less than zero.

3. Returns not required. Notwithstanding section 5220 or any other provision of law, an individual who is eligible for this credit is not required to file a state <u>Maine</u> income tax return.

20 Sec. 54. 36 MRSA §5231, sub-§1, as amended by PL 1989, c. 871, §19, is further amended to read:

 General. The assesser <u>State Tax Assessor</u> may grant a
 reasonable extension of time for payment of tax or estimated tax or any installment, or for filing any return, declaration,
 statement or other document required pursuant to this Part, on terms and conditions the assessor may require. Except <u>as provided</u>
 <u>in subsection 1-A or</u> for a taxpayer who is outside the United States, an extension for filing any return, declaration,
 statement or document may not exceed 8 months.

32 Sec. 55. 36 MRSA §5231, sub-§1-A, as amended by PL 1997, c. 404, §9 and affected by §10, is further amended to read:

1-A. Federal extension. When an individual, estate or trust is granted an extension of time within which to file a 36 federal income tax return for any taxable year, the due date for 38 filing the taxpayer's income tax return with respect to the tax imposed by this Part is automatically extended for an equivalent 40 period. When a taxable corporation or a financial institution subject to the tax imposed by chapter 819 is granted an extension of time within which to file its federal income tax return for 42 any taxable year, the due date for filing the taxpayer's income tax or franchise tax return with respect to the tax imposed by 44 this Part is automatically extended for an equivalent period plus 30 days. 46

48 Sec. 56. 36 MRSA §5316, as amended by PL 1971, c. 622, §132, is repealed.

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Sec. 57. 36 MRSA §6652, sub-§1, as amended by PL 2001, c. 396, $\S45$, is further amended to read:

A person against whom taxes have been 4 1. Generally. assessed pursuant to Part 2, except for chapters 111 and 112, with respect to eligible property and who has paid those taxes is б entitled to reimbursement of those taxes from the State as provided in this chapter. For purposes of this chapter, a tax 8 applied as a credit against a tax assessed pursuant to chapter 111 or 112 is a tax assessed pursuant to chapter 111 or 112. 10 Eligible property is subject to reimbursement pursuant to this 12 chapter for up to 12 property tax years, but the 12 years must be reduced by one year for each year during which a taxpayer included the same property in its investment credit base under 14 section 5219-D, 5219-E or 5219-M and claimed the credit provided 16 in one or more of those sections on its income tax return, and reimbursement may not be made for taxes assessed in a year in which one or more of those credits is taken. 18 <u>A successor in</u> interest of a person against whom taxes have been assessed with respect to eligible property is entitled to reimbursement 20 pursuant to this section, whether the tax was paid by the person 22 assessed or by the successor, as long as a transfer of the property in question to the successor has occurred and the 24 successor is the owner of the property as of August 1st, of the year in which a claim for reimbursement may be filed pursuant to 26 section 6654. For purposes of this paragraph, "successor in interest" includes the initial successor and any subsequent 28 successor. When an eligible successor in interest exists, the successor is the only person to whom reimbursement under this chapter may be made with respect to the transferred property. 30

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Sec. 58. P&SL 1999, c. 53 is repealed.

34 Sec. 59. Application. That section of this Act that repeals Private and Special Law 1999, chapter 53 applies to persons 36 applying for participation in the elderly low-cost drug program after December 31, 2002.

Sec. 60. Effective date. That section of this Act that amends the Maine Revised Statutes, Title 36, section 191, subsection 2, paragraph R, as amended by Public Law 2001, chapter 714, Part CC, section 2, takes effect when the provisions in Public Law 2001, chapter 714, Part CC, section 8 are met.

SUMMARY

- 48 This bill makes the following changes to the laws governing taxation.
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The bill establishes specific statutory authority and 52 procedures for the State Tax Assessor to accept protective claims for refund. The bill clarifies that a taxpayer who fails to file a timely request for administrative review of a denial of a tax
refund claim forfeits the right to seek review of the denial in Superior Court and that the taxpayer can not submit reiterative
claims for the same refund.

8 The bill amends the law governing confidentiality of tax information to allow disclosure to the Department of Human 10 Services and the Department of Behavioral and Developmental Services of information relating to the administration and 12 collection of the hospital tax. This provision was inadvertently omitted from the supplemental appropriations bill enacted in 14 November 2002, which imposed the new tax.

 16 The bill allows the Department of Administrative and Financial Services, Bureau of Revenue Services to provide
 18 taxpayer information to the Department of Human Services, Office of Head Start and Child Care for purposes of certifying
 20 investments eligible for the quality child care investment credit.

22 The bill allows employees of the Bureau of Revenue Services to disclose certain information to the Finance Authority of Maine 24 necessary to ensure that individual recipients are eligible to receive certain benefits under the Maine College Savings Program. 26

The bill deletes a redundant definition of the term "person" 28 from the Sales and Use Tax Law. The same term is defined for all taxes in the general provisions of the tax laws.

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The bill amends the definition of "retail sale" to clarify 32 that sales of all kinds of video media for rental are not taxable, consistent with other statutory changes enacted in 2002. 34

The bill corrects outdated cross-references to sections 187 36 and 1951, which have been repealed, and makes various grammatical corrections.

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The bill corrects a conflict between the Maine Revised 40 Statutes, Title 36, sections 1861-A and 1951-A regarding an individual's use tax responsibility to the State. Title 36, 42 section 1861-A added a reporting mechanism for an individual to report and pay use tax on small purchases made outside of the 44 State, such as through mail order or shopping trips to places outside the State. This change to Title 36, section 1861-A would allow the use tax line on the individual income tax return to be 46 used only for reporting use tax on items with a purchase price of 48 \$1,000 or less. Use tax on items with a purchase price of more than \$1,000 would be due and payable by the 15th of the month 50 following the date of purchase.

2 The bill deletes a redundant provision for abatement of sales and use taxes. The circumstances under which all taxes may 4 be abated are set forth more fully in the general provisions of the tax laws. The bill also corrects references to taxable 6 services to reflect current law, corrects a grammatical error and changes gender-specific language.

The bill deletes a redundant definition of the term "person" 10 from the Gasoline Tax Act. The same term is defined for all taxes in the general provisions of the tax laws. 12

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The bill replaces outdated references to state and federal statutes governing highway common carriers. The Public Utilities 14 Commission no longer regulates highway common carriers and the 16 federal excise tax no longer applies to highway transportation. The bill substitutes a cross-reference to the statute that 18 imposes the current operating authority license requirement and incorporates the relevant language of the repealed federal law 20 into Maine law. The bill also clarifies the formula for computing the amount of the refunds authorized by the statute, eliminates redundant verbiage and gender-specific language. 22

The bill corrects inappropriate references to "distributor" in the Special Fuel Tax Act. "Distributor" is not defined in the
Maine Revised Statutes, Title 36, chapter 459 and is defined elsewhere in Title 36 to mean a different category of persons
from what is intended here.

30 The bill corrects inappropriate references to "internal combustion engine fuel" in the Special Fuel Tax Act. "Internal 32 combustion engine fuel" is not defined in Title 36, chapter 459 and is defined elsewhere in Title 36 to mean a different type of 34 fuel from what is intended here. The bill also removes superfluous verbiage and corrects grammatical errors.

The bill corrects an inappropriate reference to 38 "distributor" in the Special Fuel Tax Act. "Distributor" is not defined in Title 36, chapter 459 and is defined elsewhere in 40 Title 36 to mean a different category of persons from what is intended here.

The bill eliminates an obsolete reference to the gasoline 44 road tax law, which has been repealed.

46 The bill establishes an automatic extension to file an estate tax return equivalent to the federal extension and limits
48 the filing extension to 8 months in all other cases. These changes provide a statutory basis for policies that have been
50 implemented administratively.

2 The bill standardizes a reference to the federal credit for state death taxes in the estate tax law for consistency with
4 other statutory revisions made in 2002.

6 The bill clarifies the administrative requirements pertaining to the sale of a controlling interest in real property 8 in the real estate transfer tax law, consistent with statutory changes enacted in 2002.

The bill simplifies the recycling assistance fee law by 12 deleting references to categories of property that are no longer subject to the fee.

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The bill repeals a provision that required rulemaking by the 16 State Tax Assessor to clarify the impact of portions of the recycling assistance fee law. Simplification of the law has 18 obviated the need for rulemaking.

20 The bill clarifies that the taxable income described in Title 36, section 5121 is the "Maine taxable income" referred to 22 in section 5111.

24 The bill clarifies that only interest from bonds of another state's government excluded from federal adjusted gross income 26 must be added back in computing Maine adjusted gross income for a resident individual.

The bill clarifies that all deductions claimed for federal 30 income tax purposes must be added back to Maine adjusted gross income if they are included in the taxpayer's investment credit 32 base for the high-technology investment tax credit.

34 The bill clarifies that only exempt government bond interest included in federal adjusted gross income may be subtracted in 36 computing Maine adjusted gross income.

38 The bill deletes an obsolete reference to the federal new jobs credit, which has been repealed.

The bill conforms the language that permits subtraction of 42 Maine College Savings Program distributions to that of Title 20-A, section 11479.

The bill defines "primary recipient" for purposes of the 96 pension income deduction. This definition is the one currently applied administratively by the Department of Administrative and 98 Financial Services, Bureau of Revenue Services.

50 The bill clarifies the language of Title 36, section 5124-A.

2 The bill clarifies references to federal adjusted gross income and federal taxable income for purposes of computing 4 itemized deductions and adds a provision specifically requiring add-back of the deduction for contributions to family development 6 account reserve funds that is disallowed by the last sentence of Title 36, section 5216-C, subsection 1.

The bill clarifies that the adjusted gross income described 10 in Title 36, section 5142 is the Maine adjusted gross income defined in section 5102, subsection 1-C, paragraph B and taxed by 12 section 5111, subsection 4 and that the Maine adjusted gross income of a nonresident individual includes the individual's 14 share of income, deductions and modifications attributable to Maine-source income of a partnership or limited liability 16 company, estate, trust or S corporation. These changes conform to current agency practice.

The bill clarifies that the taxable income of estates and 20 trusts on which the tax is imposed is the Maine taxable income described in Title 36, sections 5163 and 5175 and that the 22 applicable tax rates are those provided for single individuals.

24 The bill clarifies that the taxable income of resident estates and trusts described in Title 36, section 5163 is the 26 Maine taxable income taxed by section 5160 and deletes superfluous verbiage.

The bill clarifies that the taxable income of nonresident 30 estates and trusts described in Title 36, section 5175 is the Maine taxable income taxed by section 5160 and corrects 32 grammatical errors.

34 The bill clarifies that bond interest from another state's government bonds excluded from federal taxable income must be 36 added back in computing Maine taxable income of a corporation.

38 The bill clarifies that all deductions claimed for federal income tax purposes must be added back to the extent they are 40 included in the taxpayer's investment credit base for the high-technology investment tax credit.

The bill clarifies that exempt income included in federal 44 taxable income may be subtracted in computing Maine taxable income.

The bill clarifies that constitutionally exempt income 48 included in federal taxable income may be subtracted in computing Maine taxable income.

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The bill clarifies that the credit for income tax paid to another taxing jurisdiction is limited to tax paid with respect to income that Maine recognizes as being derived from sources in the other taxing jurisdiction. The changes conform to current agency practice.

The bill clarifies the calculation of the credit for child 8 care expenses by part-year residents. The changes conform to current agency practice. The bill also deletes superfluous 10 verbiage.

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12 The bill clarifies the calculation of the retirement and disability credit by part-year residents. The changes conform to 14 current agency practice.

16 The bill makes it clear that the \$2,000 income limit for the low-income credit applies to an individual's entire taxable 18 income as determined for resident individuals regardless of whether the taxpayer was a Maine resident for the entire year.

The bill clarifies the circumstances under which a taxpayer 22 may be granted an extension of time to file an individual or fiduciary income tax return.

The bill establishes an automatic extension of time to file an individual or fiduciary income tax return equivalent to the federal extension. These changes provide a statutory basis for policies that have been implemented administratively.

The bill repeals a redundant provision relating to the collection of income tax debts owed by nonresidents. The powers
granted to the State Tax Assessor by this provision are included in the general provisions of the tax laws.

The bill amends the business equipment tax reimbursement 36 statutes to provide that business equipment tax reimbursement is available, and limited to, a successor in interest that owns 38 eligible business property on August 1st of the year in which a claim may be made.

The bill repeals a law that requires adoption of a rule for 42 the elderly low-cost drug program to allow consideration of an applicant's change in income from the prior year. As of January 1, 2003, the elderly low-cost drug program is being administered 44 by the Department of Human Services under the laws that govern 46 the Healthy Maine Prescription Program, which determines eligibility based on the current income of the applicant. Repealing this law will allow the Bureau of Revenue Services to 48 repeal the rule that is no longer applicable.