

# MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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# 121st MAINE LEGISLATURE

## SECOND REGULAR SESSION-2004

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Legislative Document

No. 1724

S.P. 657

In Senate, December 17, 2003

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### **An Act To Create the Maine Military Family Relief Fund**

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Approved for introduction by a majority of the Legislative Council pursuant to Joint Rule 203.

Received by the Secretary of the Senate on December 17, 2003. Referred to the Committee on Taxation pursuant to Joint Rule 308.2 and ordered printed pursuant to Joint Rule 218.

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Joy J. O'Brien".

JOY J. O'BRIEN  
Secretary of the Senate

Presented by Senator HALL of Lincoln.

Cosponsored by Representative RICHARDSON of Brunswick and

Representatives: BULL of Freeport, FISCHER of Presque Isle, GERZOFSKY of Brunswick, McGOWAN of Pittsfield, MILLS of Farmington, MOODY of Manchester, SIMPSON of Auburn, SUSLOVIC of Portland.

2  
3 Be it enacted by the People of the State of Maine as follows:

4 Sec. 1. 36 MRSA §5288 is enacted to read:

5 **§5288. Maine Military Family Relief Fund voluntary checkoff**

6  
7 **1. Maine Military Family Relief Fund.** When filing a  
8 return, a taxpayer entitled to a refund under this Part may  
9 designate that a portion of that refund be paid into the Maine  
10 Military Family Relief Fund established in Title 37-B, section  
11 158. A taxpayer who is not entitled to a refund under this Part  
12 may contribute to the Maine Military Family Relief Fund by  
13 including with that taxpayer's return sufficient funds to make  
14 the contribution. The contribution may not be less than \$1.  
15 Each individual income tax return form must contain a designation  
16 in substantially the following form: "The Maine Military Family  
17 Relief Fund: ( ) \$1, ( ) \$5, ( ) \$10, ( ) \$25 or ( ) Other  
18 \$... ."

19  
20 **2. Contributions credited to Maine Military Family Relief**  
21 **Fund.** The State Tax Assessor shall determine annually the total  
22 amount contributed pursuant to subsection 1. Prior to the  
23 beginning of the next year, the State Tax Assessor shall deduct  
24 the cost of administering the Maine Military Family Relief Fund  
25 checkoff, but not exceeding \$2,000 annually, and report the  
26 remainder to the Treasurer of State, who shall forward that  
27 amount to the Maine Military Family Relief Fund.

28  
29 **3. Application.** This section applies to tax years  
30 beginning on and after January 1, 2005.

31 Sec. 2. 37-B MRSA §158 is enacted to read:

32 **§158. Maine Military Family Relief Fund**

33  
34 **The Maine Military Family Relief Fund is established as a**  
35 **nonlapsing fund administered according to rules adopted by the**  
36 **Adjutant General. The Adjutant General is authorized to make**  
37 **grants from the Maine Military Family Relief Fund to families of**  
38 **persons who are members of the Maine National Guard or residents**  
39 **of the State who are members of the Reserves of the Armed Forces**  
40 **of the United States who have been called to military duty. The**  
41 **Military Bureau shall adopt rules establishing eligibility**  
42 **criteria for the grants. Rules adopted pursuant to this section**  
43 **are routine technical rules as defined in Title 5, chapter 375,**  
44 **subchapter 2-A.**

## SUMMARY

2

This bill establishes the Maine Military Family Relief Fund.