

MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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TAXATION
Majority

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STATE OF MAINE
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
122ND LEGISLATURE
SECOND REGULAR SESSION

COMMITTEE AMENDMENT "A" to H.P. 359, L.D. 484, Bill, "An Act To Enact the Tax Fairness Act"

Amend the bill by striking out the title and substituting the following:

'An Act To Provide for an Advisory Referendum on Tax Restructuring'

Further amend the bill by striking out everything after the enacting clause and inserting in its place the following:

'Sec. 1. Special advisory referendum on tax restructuring. The Secretary of State shall, at the next general election in the month of November following the passage of this Act, hold a special advisory referendum to determine the sentiment of the people on tax restructuring.

Sec. 2. Advisory referendum procedure; submission at general election. This advisory referendum must be submitted to the legal voters of the State at the next general election in the month of November following passage of this Act. The municipal officers of this State shall notify the inhabitants of their respective cities, towns and plantations to meet, in the manner prescribed by law for holding a general election, to give their opinion on this question by voting on the following:

"Do you favor elimination of certain sales tax exemptions in order to provide income tax relief and property tax relief in a revenue-neutral manner?"

The legal voters of each city, town and plantation shall vote by ballot on this question and designate their choice by a

cross or check mark placed within a corresponding square below the word "Yes" or "No." The ballots must be received, sorted, counted and declared in open ward, town and plantation meetings and returns made to the Secretary of State in the same manner as votes for members of the Legislature. The Governor shall review the returns and shall proclaim, without delay, the total number of ballots in favor of and opposed to tax restructuring.

The Secretary of State shall prepare and furnish to each city, town and plantation all ballots, returns and copies of this Act necessary to carry out the purpose of this advisory referendum.'

SUMMARY

This amendment replaces the bill with an advisory referendum, submitting to the voters the question of whether they favor repealing certain sales tax exemptions in order to provide income tax relief and property tax relief in a revenue-neutral manner.

FISCAL NOTE REQUIRED (See attached)



Approved: 02/22/06 *mac*

122nd MAINE LEGISLATURE

LD 484

LR1970(02)

An Act To Enact the Tax Fairness Act

Fiscal Note for Bill as Amended by Committee Amendment "A"

Committee: Taxation

Fiscal Note Required: Yes

Fiscal Note

Referendum Costs

Month/Year

Election Type

Question

Length

Nov-06

General

Referendum

Standard

The Secretary of State's budget includes sufficient funds to accommodate one ballot of average length for the general election in November. If the number or size of the referendum questions increases the ballot length, an additional appropriation of \$8,000 or more may be required.