MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

The following document is provided by the

LAW AND LEGISLATIVE DIGITAL LIBRARY

at the Maine State Law and Legislative Reference Library

http://legislature.maine.gov/lawlib



Reproduced from scanned originals with text recognition applied (searchable text may contain some errors and/or omissions)



122nd MAINE LEGISLATURE

FIRST REGULAR SESSION-2005

Legislative Document

No. 904

S.P. 312

In Senate, February 22, 2005

An Act To Create the Maine Asthma and Lung Disease Research Fund

Reference to the Committee on Health and Human Services suggested and ordered printed.

JOY J. O'BRIEN Secretary of the Senate

Presented by Senator MARTIN of Aroostook.

Cosponsored by Senators: President EDMONDS of Cumberland, PERRY of Penobscot, TURNER of Cumberland, Representatives: CLOUGH of Scarborough, DUPLESSIE of Westbrook.

Be it e	nacted b	y the	People	of the	State of	Maine	as follows:
---------	----------	-------	--------	--------	----------	-------	-------------

2

4

Sec. 1. 22 MRSA c. 275, as amended, is amended by repealing the chapter headnote and enacting the following in its place:

6

CHAPTER 275

8

ASTHMA AND LUNG DISEASE

10

14

16

18

20

22

24

26

28

30

Sec. 2. 22 MRSA §1700-A is enacted to read:

12 **§1**7

\$1700-A. Maine Asthma and Lung Disease Research Fund

There is established the Maine Asthma and Lung Disease Research Fund, an interest-bearing account, referred to in this section as "the fund." The fund receives money deposited by the Treasurer of State pursuant to Title 36, section 5289 and any other money contributed voluntarily to the fund. The fund is administered by the Bureau of Health. All money deposited in the fund and the earnings on that money remain in the fund to be used to provide research grants to develop and advance the understanding of lung disease, especially its prevention, causes, treatment and cure. Areas of research eligible for grants under this section include, but are not limited to, asthma, health effects of indoor and outdoor air pollution, emphysema and chronic obstructive pulmonary disease. Money in the fund may also be used for the necessary administrative and personnel costs associated with the management of the fund but may not be deposited in the General Fund or any other fund except as specifically provided by law.

3.2

Sec. 3. 36 MRSA §5289 is enacted to read:

§5289. Maine Asthma and Lung Disease Research Fund; voluntary checkoff

36

38

40

42

44

46

48

34

1. Maine Asthma and Lung Disease Research Fund. When filing a return, a taxpayer entitled to a refund under this Part may designate that a portion of that refund be paid into the Maine Asthma and Lung Disease Research Fund established in Title 22, section 1700-A. A taxpayer who is not entitled to a refund under this Part may contribute to the Maine Asthma and Lung Disease Research Fund by including with that taxpayer's return sufficient funds to make the contribution. The contribution may not be less than \$1. Each individual income tax return form must contain a designation in substantially the following form: "Maine Asthma and Lung Disease Research Fund: () \$1, () \$5, () \$10, () \$25 or () Other \$....."

	2	Contrib	utions	credite	d to	Maine	Asthma	and	Lung D	iseasc
2	Research	Fund.	The St	ate Tax	Asse	ssor s	shall d	leterm	nine an	nually
	the total	amount	contr	ibuted p	ursua	nt to	subsec	tion	1. Pr	ior to
4	the begin	nning o	f the	next ye	ear,	the St	ate T	ax As	sessor	shall
	deduct th	he cost	, up	to \$2,0	00 ar	nually	of,	admin	isterin	g the
6	Maine Ast	hma and	Lung	Disease	Rese	arch F	und ch	eckof	f and	report
	the remai	nder to	the 7	<u> reasure</u>	r of	State,	who s	hall	forward	that
8	amount to	the Ma:	ine Ast	hma and	Lung	Diseas	e Rese	arch I	fund.	

Sec. 4. Application. This Act applies to tax years beginning on and after January 1, 2005.

14 SUMMARY

This bill establishes the Maine Asthma and Lung Disease Research Fund in the Department of Health and Human Services, Bureau of Health to provide grants for research into the health effects of indoor and outdoor air pollution and the prevention, causes, treatment and cure of lung diseases such as asthma, emphysema and chronic obstructive pulmonary disease. The funding source of the fund is a voluntary checkoff on the individual income tax form that allows a taxpayer to donate a portion of a tax refund or make a donation with the tax return.