

MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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124th MAINE LEGISLATURE

FIRST REGULAR SESSION-2009

Legislative Document

No. 715

H.P. 498

House of Representatives, February 24, 2009

**An Act To Enable the Use of Credit Cards for Governmental
Transactions**

Reference to the Committee on Insurance and Financial Services suggested and ordered printed.

Millicent M. MacFarland
MILLICENT M. MacFARLAND
Clerk

Presented by Representative CROCKETT of Augusta.
Cosponsored by Senator MARRACHÉ of Kennebec and
Representatives: BEAUDETTE of Biddeford, BLODGETT of Augusta, FLEMINGS of Bar
Harbor, HASKELL of Portland, WATSON of Bath, Senators: MILLS of Somerset, NASS of
York, PERRY of Penobscot.

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

2 **Sec. 1. 9-A MRS §8-303, sub-§2-A is enacted to read:**

3 2-A. Notwithstanding subsection 2, a governmental entity may impose a surcharge
4 for payments made with a credit card for taxes, fines, charges, utility fees, regulatory
5 fees, license or permit fees or the provision of a specific service provided by that
6 governmental entity if the surcharge:

7 A. Is disclosed clearly to the consumer prior to payment; and

8 B. Does not exceed the costs associated with providing the credit card service that
9 are directly incurred by the governmental entity or assessed by an authorized 3rd-
10 party payment service provider.

11 As used in this subsection, "governmental entity" means a county established or governed
12 by Title 30-A, Part 1, a municipality as defined in Title 30-A, section 2001, subsection 8
13 or a quasi-municipal corporation as defined in Title 30-A, section 2604, subsection 3.

14 **SUMMARY**

15 This bill allows a county, municipality or quasi-municipal corporation to impose a
16 surcharge for the use of a credit card to pay for taxes, fines, fees and services provided as
17 long as the amount of the surcharge is disclosed to the consumer prior to payment and the
18 amount does not exceed the costs incurred by the governmental entity for providing the
19 credit card payment option.