

# MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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# 127th MAINE LEGISLATURE

## FIRST REGULAR SESSION-2015

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Legislative Document

No. 980

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H.P. 677

House of Representatives, March 18, 2015

### An Act To Restore Revenue Sharing

(EMERGENCY)

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Reference to the Committee on Taxation suggested and ordered printed.

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "R B. Hunt".

ROBERT B. HUNT  
Clerk

Presented by Representative TEPLER of Topsham.  
Cosponsored by Senator BREEN of Cumberland and  
Representatives: ALLEY of Beals, BLUME of York, DEVIN of Newcastle, GILLWAY of  
Searsport, GOODE of Bangor, McCABE of Skowhegan, STANLEY of Medway, Senator:  
LIBBY of Androscoggin.

1 **Emergency preamble.** Whereas, acts and resolves of the Legislature do not  
2 become effective until 90 days after adjournment unless enacted as emergencies; and

3 **Whereas,** state-municipal revenue sharing is used to stabilize the municipal property  
4 tax burden and to aid in financing all municipal services; and

5 **Whereas,** transfers to municipalities are required to be made by the 20th of each  
6 month; for fiscal year 2015-16, the first transfer is required to be made by July 20, 2015;  
7 and

8 **Whereas,** the 90-day period required for nonemergency legislation may not  
9 terminate until after this date; and

10 **Whereas,** in the judgment of the Legislature, these facts create an emergency within  
11 the meaning of the Constitution of Maine and require the following legislation as  
12 immediately necessary for the preservation of the public peace, health and safety; now,  
13 therefore,

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

15 **Sec. 1. 30-A MRSA §5681, sub-§5-C,** as amended by PL 2013, c. 368, Pt. J, §1,  
16 is further amended to read:

17 **5-C. Transfers to General Fund.** For the months beginning on or after July 1,  
18 2009, \$25,383,491 in fiscal year 2009-10, \$38,145,323 in fiscal year 2010-11,  
19 \$40,350,638 in fiscal year 2011-12, \$44,267,343 in fiscal year 2012-13, \$73,306,246 in  
20 fiscal year 2013-14 ~~and~~, \$85,949,391 in fiscal year 2014-15, \$64,462,043 in fiscal year  
21 2015-16, \$42,974,695 in fiscal year 2016-17 and \$21,487,348 in fiscal year 2017-18 from  
22 the total transfers pursuant to subsection 5 must be transferred to General Fund  
23 undedicated revenue. The amounts transferred to General Fund undedicated revenue  
24 each fiscal year pursuant to this subsection must be deducted from the distributions  
25 required by subsections 4-A and 4-B based on the percentage share of the transfers to the  
26 Local Government Fund pursuant to subsection 5. The reductions in this subsection must  
27 be allocated to each month proportionately based on the budgeted monthly transfers to  
28 the Local Government Fund as determined at the beginning of the fiscal year.

29 **Emergency clause.** In view of the emergency cited in the preamble, this  
30 legislation takes effect when approved.

31 **SUMMARY**

32 Currently, for the fiscal year ending June 30, 2015, the amount transferred to  
33 municipalities under state-municipal revenue sharing is decreased by approximately  
34 \$86,000,000. This bill restores state-municipal revenue sharing by the fiscal year  
35 beginning July 1, 2018 by transferring from state-municipal revenue sharing each fiscal  
36 year for the next 3 fiscal years an increasingly lesser amount than the fiscal year 2014-15  
37 amount.