MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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130th MAINE LEGISLATURE

FIRST REGULAR SESSION-2021

Legislative Document

No. 740

H.P. 545

House of Representatives, March 5, 2021

An Act To Provide Municipalities a Percentage of the Revenue Generated from the Taxes Imposed on the Sale of Recreational Marijuana in Those Municipalities

Reference to the Committee on Taxation suggested and ordered printed.

ROBERT B. HUNT
Clerk

Presented by Representative O'CONNELL of Brewer.

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

Sec. 1. 28-B MRSA §407 is enacted to read:

§407. Revenue allocation to municipalities

- 1. Local Government Marijuana Revenue Fund established. To assist in offsetting negative effects on local resources of local regulation and enforcement of adult use marijuana laws, there is established the Local Government Marijuana Revenue Fund, referred to in this section as "the fund."
- **2. Fund sources.** The fund receives money transferred to the fund pursuant to Title 36, section 1818, subsection 2 and Title 36, section 4925, subsection 2.
- 3. Distribution of funds. The Treasurer of State shall distribute the balance in the fund on the 20th day of each month. Money in the fund must be distributed to each municipality that has authorized, pursuant to sections 401 and 403, a marijuana establishment within the municipality, in proportion to the ratio of revenues generated pursuant to Title 36, sections 1811 and 4923 by all marijuana establishments operating within the municipality to the revenues generated pursuant to Title 36, sections 1811 and 4923 by all marijuana establishments operating within the State.
- 4. Unorganized and deorganized areas. For purposes of municipal marijuana revenue distribution pursuant to this section, unorganized and deorganized areas must be treated as if they are municipalities.
- **Sec. 2. 36 MRSA §1818,** as enacted by PL 2017, c. 409, Pt. D, §4, is repealed and the following enacted in its place:

§1818. Tax on adult use marijuana and adult use marijuana products

All sales tax revenue collected pursuant to section 1811 on the sale of adult use marijuana and adult use marijuana products must be deposited into the General Fund, except that, on or before the last day of each month, the State Controller shall transfer:

- 1. Adult Use Marijuana Public Health and Safety Fund. Twelve percent of the sales tax revenue reported to the State Tax Assessor as due during the preceding month pursuant to section 1811 to the Adult Use Marijuana Public Health and Safety Fund established under Title 28-B, section 1101; and
- 2. Local Government Marijuana Revenue Fund. Twenty-five percent of the sales tax revenue reported to the State Tax Assessor as due during the preceding month pursuant to section 1811 to the Local Government Marijuana Revenue Fund established under Title 28-B, section 407 calculated after the transfer pursuant to subsection 1 and after the subtraction of the costs of the State Tax Assessor in administering this subsection. For the purposes of this subsection, "costs of the State Tax Assessor in administering this subsection" means, for each month in the 12-month period after the effective date of this section, the actual and anticipated cost to the State Tax Assessor of administering this subsection and, in all subsequent months, the previous month's actual cost of administering this subsection.
- **Sec. 3. 36 MRSA §4925,** as enacted by PL 2019, c. 231, Pt. B, §7, is repealed and the following enacted in its place:

§4925. Application of excise tax revenue

All excise tax revenue collected by the assessor on the sale of adult use marijuana pursuant to this chapter must be deposited into the General Fund, except that, on or before the last day of each month, the assessor shall transfer:

- 1. Adult Use Marijuana Public Health and Safety Fund. Twelve percent of the excise tax revenue received during the preceding month pursuant to this chapter to the Adult Use Marijuana Public Health and Safety Fund established under Title 28-B, section 1101; and
- 2. Local Government Marijuana Revenue Fund. Twenty-five percent of the excise tax revenue received during the preceding month into the Local Government Marijuana Revenue Fund established under Title 28-B, section 407 calculated after the transfer pursuant to subsection 1 and after the subtraction of the costs of the assessor in administering this subsection. For the purposes of this subsection, "costs of the assessor in administering this subsection" means, for each month in the 12-month period after the effective date of this section, the actual and anticipated cost to the assessor of administering this subsection and, in all subsequent months, the previous month's actual cost of administering this subsection.

17 SUMMARY

 This bill requires the transfer of 25% of the revenue from the sales tax and the excise tax on adult use marijuana to a fund established by the bill to be distributed to municipalities where marijuana establishments are located in proportion to the ratio of the revenue generated in the municipality to the total revenue generated by adult use marijuana establishments statewide.