

# MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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# 131st MAINE LEGISLATURE

## FIRST REGULAR SESSION-2023

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Legislative Document

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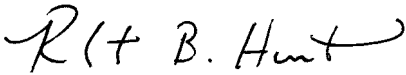
H.P. 748

House of Representatives, March 14, 2023

### **An Act to Create Municipal Cannabis Revenue Sharing**

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Reference to the Committee on Taxation suggested and ordered printed.

  
ROBERT B. HUNT  
Clerk

Presented by Representative ADAMS of Lebanon.

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

2 **Sec. 1. 28-B MRSA §1101, sub-§2, ¶C**, as enacted by PL 2021, c. 645, §4 and  
3 amended by c. 669, §5, is amended to read:

4 C. ~~Money credited to the fund may be expended by the~~ The department to shall on an  
5 annual basis provide 20% of the money credited to the fund as reimbursement to a  
6 municipality for qualifying expenses incurred as a result of the municipality's  
7 municipalities ~~opting to permit the operation of some or all adult use cannabis~~  
8 ~~establishments within the municipality. For the purposes of this paragraph, "qualifying~~  
9 ~~expenses" means legal fees and costs associated with the drafting and adoption of a~~  
10 ~~warrant article or the adoption or amendment of an ordinance, including the conduct~~  
11 ~~of a town meeting or election, by a municipality that opted to permit the operation of~~  
12 ~~some or all cannabis establishments within the municipality. Each municipality may~~  
13 ~~receive funds, not to exceed \$20,000, only once for the reimbursement of qualifying~~  
14 ~~expenses in accordance with this paragraph. Nothing in this paragraph may be~~  
15 ~~construed to require the department to reimburse qualifying expenses incurred by a~~  
16 ~~municipality if the department determines there are insufficient funds available to~~  
17 ~~provide reimbursement. Under no circumstances may a municipality submit an initial~~  
18 ~~application for the reimbursement of qualifying expenses more than 3 years after the~~  
19 ~~municipality adopts a warrant article or adopts or amends an ordinance to allow for the~~  
20 ~~operation of some or all adult use cannabis establishments within the municipality. The~~  
21 ~~department may adopt rules to implement and administer the reimbursement of~~  
22 ~~qualifying expenses to municipalities. Rules adopted pursuant to this paragraph are~~  
23 ~~routine technical rules as defined in Title 5, chapter 375, subchapter 2-A. The~~  
24 ~~department may not reimburse qualifying expenses under this paragraph accrued after~~  
25 ~~July 1, 2027. The department shall distribute the reimbursement equally to all~~  
26 municipalities that qualify for the reimbursement.

27 **SUMMARY**

28 This bill directs that 20% of the money credited to the Adult Use Cannabis Public  
29 Health and Safety and Municipal Opt-in Fund be provided to municipalities that opted to  
30 permit some or all adult use cannabis establishments.