

MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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EIGHTY-SECOND LEGISLATURE

S. P. No. 475

S. D. No. 185

In Senate, March 10, 1925.

Referred to Committee on Appropriations and Financial Affairs and 1000 copies ordered printed. Sent down for concurrence.

ROYDEN V. BROWN, Secretary.

Presented by Senator Wadsworth of Kennebec.

STATE OF MAINE

IN THE YEAR OF OUR LORD ONE THOUSAND NINE
HUNDRED AND TWENTY-FIVE

AN ACT Establishing a State Contingent Fund and a Surplus
Revenue Account and Regulating the Same.

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

Section 1. *State contingent fund created; limitation of amount; includes unexpended balances; exception; amount of income above expenses credited; fund may be increased by appropriations.* The state auditor and treasurer of state shall open on their books an account to be known as the state contingent fund which shall not, except as hereinafter provided, exceed three hundred thousand dollars (\$300,000). Said fund shall consist of, and there shall be trans-

9 ferred and credited thereto to the extent permitted by said
10 limitation, all balances of unexpended appropriations, which
11 exist on the first day of January of each year and which
12 are not continued by law, except such appropriations as re-
13 late to the issue and payment of state bonds, temporary
14 loans and special funds in the state treasury department.
15 To the extent permitted by said limitation, there shall also
16 be credited to said account on the first day of July of each
17 year or as soon thereafter as the amount can be correctly
18 ascertained, the amount by which the actual income of the
19 state for the preceding year exceeds the current expenses
20 of said year, and, in the discretion of the governor and
21 council, balances of unexpended appropriations which exist
22 on the first day of July of each year and which are not
23 continued by law, except such as relate to the issue and
24 payment of state bonds, temporary loans or special funds
25 in the state treasury department. The state contingent fund
26 may be increased from time to time by direct legislative
27 appropriations, but such appropriations, if made for specific
28 purposes, shall be separately accounted for.

Sect. 2. *Surplus revenue account; sources from which*
2 *accumulated.* The state auditor and treasurer of state shall
3 also open on their books an account to be known as the
4 surplus revenue account to which shall be transferred and
5 credited all sums of money at any time found in the state
6 contingent fund in excess of three hundred thousand dol-
7 lars (\$300,000) plus the amount of special legislative ap-

18 appropriations. All sums derived from all the sources men-
19 tioned in the preceding section which may not be credited
20 to said state contingent fund because of the limitation re-
21 cited in said section shall also be credited to said account.

Sect. 3. *State contingent fund; how to be expended.*

22 When authorized by the governor, with the advice and con-
23 sent of the council, warrants may be drawn upon, charged
24 to and paid out of said state contingent fund for the pur-
25 poses and to the extent of any special appropriations there-
26 to made by the legislature, and to pay outstanding bills or
27 accounts that were properly chargeable to the several ap-
28 propriations for the previous fiscal year ending the thirtieth
29 day of June preceding the time of payment; to pay out-
30 standing bills necessarily contracted by state departments
31 or state institutions for which, on account of circumstances
32 arising subsequent to the legislative appropriations for such
33 departments and institutions, the legislature failed to make
34 sufficient provision; to pay such other expenses as may be
35 necessarily incurred under any requirement of law or for
36 the maintenance of government within the scope existing
37 at the time of the previous session of the legislature or con-
38 templated by laws enacted thereat; and to pay bills arising
39 out of some emergency requiring an expenditure of money
40 not provided for by the legislature. So much of said state
41 contingent fund as may be necessary for said purposes is
42 is hereby appropriated to pay such bills and expenses and
43 for said purposes. No amount shall be expended from or

24 charged to said fund in any year in excess of the sum of
25 three hundred thousand dollars (\$300,000) plus any special
26 legislative appropriations thereto.

Sect. 4. *Warrants shall be supported by vouchers; trans-*
2 *fers and payments prohibited.* Warrants drawn upon said
3 state contingent fund shall be supported by proper vouchers,
4 itemized, approved and audited in conformity to law. No
5 transfer or payments other than those provided by the three
6 preceding sections shall be made from any fund or account
7 thereby created except by special authority of the legis-
8 lature. The state auditor shall submit to the legislature as
9 soon as possible after it convenes a statement showing the
10 amounts in said state contingent fund and in said surplus
11 revenue account, together with a detailed statement of the
12 expenditures charged against said state contingent fund.

Sect. 5. Sections eighty-five, eighty-six, eighty-seven and
2 eighty-eight of chapter two of the revised statutes and all
3 acts amendatory thereof are hereby repealed.