

MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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N I N E T Y - F I F T H L E G I S L A T U R E

Legislative Document

No. 646

H. P. 1066

House of Representatives, February 13, 1951.

Referred to Committee on Taxation. Sent up for concurrence and ordered printed.

HARVEY R. PEASE, Clerk.

Presented by Mr. Chase of Cape Elizabeth.

STATE OF MAINE

IN THE YEAR OF OUR LORD NINETEEN HUNDRED
FIFTY-ONE

AN ACT Appropriating Moneys for Revision of State Valuation.

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

Sec. 1. Purpose. The state valuation is and for many years has been based on values far lower than current values of property and it is desirable that said state valuation be adjusted to establish a simple, definite and equitable basis for equalization through state aid to municipalities, and for the assessment of state taxes upon property when and where levied by the state. Revision of the state valuation must be made all at once and not little by little in order to preserve an equitable relationship among municipalities and in the unorganized townships.

Sec. 2. Appropriation; purposes. There is hereby appropriated out of the general fund the sum of \$50,000 for the fiscal year ending June 30, 1952, to be expended by the bureau of taxation for the following purposes and under the following conditions:

- I. To determine the basis of just and equitable value and the principles to be applied in such determination, with due regard for the need for stability;

II. To determine the methods by which the state valuation shall be revised biennially in accordance with the change in values;

III. To revalue for state valuation purposes in accordance with the principles and methods so determined, for effective application as the next regular biennial valuation in December, 1952;

IV. To examine all grants-in-aid formulae and all taxes based on the state valuation and to recommend to the next legislature such changes as may become necessary because of the revision of the state valuation.

Sec. 3. Assistance. The board of equalization, subject to the approval of the governor and council, is hereby authorized to contract for professional and expert assistance in making such revaluation and to employ more persons in the bureau of taxation, within the limits of the amount appropriated under this chapter.

Sec. 4. Advisory committee. There is hereby created an advisory committee of 5 members, 2 to be appointed from the senate by the president of the senate and 3 to be appointed from the house of representatives by the speaker of the house, to confer with and advise the board of equalization in determining the 1952 state valuation and in carrying out the provisions of this chapter. The advisory committee shall meet once each month while the revaluation is in process. The members of the committee shall be paid their expenses and \$10 a day for attendance at meetings. Their terms shall expire on December 31, 1952.

Sec. 5. Report. The state tax assessor shall make a full report to the 96th legislature on actions taken under the provisions of this chapter.

Sec. 6. Unexpended balances. Any balance of the appropriation remaining unexpended on June 30, 1952 shall be available for the purposes of this chapter in the fiscal year ending June 30, 1953.