MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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ACTS AND RESOLVES

AS PASSED BY THE

Eighty-second Legislature

OF THE

STATE OF MAINE

1925

Published by the Secretary of State, in accordance with the Resolves of the Legislature approved June 28, 1820, March 18, 1840, and March 16, 1842.

KENNEBEC JOURNAL PRINT SHOP AUGUSTA, MAINE

PUBLIC LAWS

OF THE

STATE OF MAINE

As Passed by the Eighty-second Legislature

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Chapter 163.

An Act to Authorize the State Auditor to Carry Forward to the Succeeding Year Construction Accounts and to Constitute them Continuous Carrying Accounts for the Purposes Designated by the Legislature.

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

- Sec. I. Appropriations for construction of buildings, highways and bridges to be carried forward to next fiscal year; proviso; unexpended balances revert to general fund in state treasury. All appropriations by the legislature for the construction of buildings, highways and bridges shall constitute continuous carrying accounts for the purposes designated by the legislature in such appropriations and the state auditor is hereby authorized to carry forward all such appropriations to the succeeding fiscal year; provided, however, that the construction shall have been begun by the letting of a contract or contracts or by actually starting the work during the year for which the appropriation was made, and provided further that any balance remaining after the completion of the object of the appropriations shall revert to general income in the state treasury or to the fund from which it was apportioned under existing provisions of law.
- Sec. 2. Unexpended appropriations may be transferred to other appropriations for same department or institution. Any balance of any appropriation or sub-division of an appropriation made by the legislature for any state department or state institution, which at any time may not be required for the purposes named in such appropriation or sub-division may, upon recommendation of the state auditor, be transferred by the governor and council to any other appropriation or sub-division of an appropriation made by the legislature for the use of the same department or the same institution.

Approved April 7, 1925.

Chapter 164.

An Act to Establish 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:

Sec. 1. State contingent fund limited to \$300,000; fund may be increased by legislative 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. Said fund shall consist of, and there shall be transferred and credited thereto to the extent permitted by said limitation,

all balances of unexpended appropriations which exist on the first day of January of each year and which are not continued by law, except such appropriations as relate to the issue and payment of state bonds, temporary loans and special funds in the state treasury department. To the extent permitted by said limitation, there shall also be credited to said account on the first day of July of each year or as soon thereafter as the amount can be correctly ascertained, the amount by which the actual income of the state for the preceding year exceeds the current expenses of said year, and, in the discretion of the governor and council, balances of unexpended appropriations which exist on the first day of July of each year and which are not continued by law, except such as relate to the issue and payment of state bonds, temporary loans or special funds in the state treasury department. The state contingent fund may be increased from time to time by direct legislative appropriations, but such appropriations, if made for specific purposes, shall be separately accounted for.

- Sec. 2. Sinking fund reserve established; how made up; fund to be applied to the payment of outstanding obligations of the state. The state auditor and treasurer of state shall also open on their books an account to be known as the sinking fund reserve to which shall be transferred and credited all sums of money at any time found in the state contingent fund in excess of three hundred thousand dollars plus the amount of special legislative appropriations. All sums derived from all the sources mentioned in the preceding section which may not be credited to said state contingent fund because of the limitation recited in said section shall also be credited to said reserve. Said sinking fund reserve shall, upon the first day of July in each year or as soon thereafter as the amount thereof can be ascertained, be set aside as a sinking fund, to be added to from year to year in like manner to be applied to the payment of outstanding obligations of the state, and to the purchase of outstanding, unmatured bonds of the state in the manner provided in section seventy-two of chapter two of the revised statutes.
- Sec. 3. Governor and council may draw warrants on contingent fund; conditions and limitations. When authorized by the governor, with the advice and consent of the council, warrants may be drawn upon, charged to and paid out of said state contingent fund for the purposes and to the extent of any special appropriations thereto made by the legislature, and to pay outstanding bills or accounts that were properly chargeable to the several appropriations for the previous fiscal year ending the thirtieth day of June preceding the time of payment; to pay outstanding bills necessarily contracted by state departments or state institutions for which, on account of circumstances arising subsequent to the legislative appropriations for such departments and institutions, the legislature failed to make sufficient

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provision; to pay such other expenses as may be necessarily incurred under any requirement of law or for the maintenance of government within the scope existing at the time of the previous session of the legislature or contemplated by laws enacted thereat; and to pay bills arising out of some emergency requiring an expenditure of money not provided for by the legislature. So much of said state contingent fund as may be necessary for said purposes is hereby appropriated to pay such bills and expenses and for said purposes. No amount shall be expended from or charged to said fund in any year in excess of the sum of three hundred thousand dollars plus any special legislative appropriations thereto.

- Sec. 4. Warrants drawn upon contingent fund to be supported by vouchers and audited; state auditor to make report to legislature relating to contingent fund and sinking fund reserve. Warrants drawn upon said state contingent fund shall be supported by proper vouchers, itemized, approved and audited in conformity to law. No transfer or payments other than those provided by the three preceding sections shall be made from any fund or account thereby created except by special authority of the legislature. The state auditor shall submit to the legislature as soon as possible after it convenes a statement showing the amounts in said state contingent fund and in said sinking fund reserve, together with a detailed statement of the expenditures charged against said state contingent fund.
- Sec. 5. R. S., c. 2, secs. 85, 86, 87 and 88; relating to contingent fund, repealed. Sections eighty-five, eighty-six, eighty-seven and eighty-eight of chapter two of the revised statutes and all acts amendatory thereof are hereby repealed.

Approved April 7, 1925.

Chapter 165.

An Act to Increase the Salary of the Stenographer of the Androscoggin Superior Court.

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

P. L., 1917, c. 260, sec. 11; 1921, c. 160; relating to stenographer of Androscoggin Superior court, amended. Section eleven of chapter two hundred and sixty of the public laws of nineteen hundred and seventeen as amended by chapter one hundred and sixty of the public laws of nineteen hundred and twenty-one, is hereby amended by striking out in the seventh and eighth lines the words "eighteen hundred dollars annually" and inserting in place thereof the words 'twenty-one hundred dollars annually,' so that said section, as amended, shall read as follows:

'Sec. 11. Salary increased. The justice of said court may appoint a