

MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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ACTS, RESOLVES AND CONSTITUTIONAL RESOLUTIONS

AS PASSED BY THE

One Hundred and Sixth Legislature

OF THE

STATE OF MAINE

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PUBLIC LAWS
OF THE
STATE OF MAINE
AS PASSED BY THE
One Hundred and Sixth Legislature

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CHAPTER 591

AN ACT Relating to Contributions and Expenditures to Influence Direct Initiative or Referendum Legislation.

Emergency preamble. Whereas, Acts of the Legislature do not become effective until 90 days after adjournment of the Legislature unless enacted as emergencies; and

Whereas, direct initiative or referendum of legislation is a right of the people under the Constitution of Maine; and

Whereas, the public has the right to know the nature of compensation used to influence such legislation during this process; and

Whereas, the following legislation is urgently needed to assure such disclosure thereby preventing possible fraud and undue harm; and

Whereas, in the judgment of the Legislature, these facts create an emergency within the meaning of the Constitution of Maine and require the following legislation as immediately necessary for the preservation of the public peace, health and safety; now, therefore,

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

Sec. 1. R. S., T. 21, § 1391-A, additional. Title 21 of the Revised Statutes is amended by adding a new section 1391-A to read as follows:

§ 1391-A. Contributions and expenditures for direct initiative or referendum legislation

Notwithstanding any other provision of law, any person, corporation, public or private utility, association, governmental agency or political committee accepting or expending money, to initiate, promote or defeat the public referendum of direct initiative legislation within the meaning of the Constitution of Maine or the state-wide public referendum of any statute shall be required starting on July 1, 1973 to file a report detailing the source, amount and date of receipt of all contributions and expenditures made in connection with any such referendum thereafter at the end of each month during such activity to file a report similarly detailing all such contributions and expenditures for that month. The Secretary of State shall establish such forms as may be necessary for efficient reporting under this section, and in any event said reports must be signed and sworn to before a notary public by the person responsible for filing the report.

Sec. 2. R. S., T. 21, § 1, sub-§ 4-A, additional. Section 1 of Title 21 of the Revised Statutes, as amended, is further amended by adding a new subsection 4-A to read as follows:

4-A. Candidate. "Candidate" means any person who has filed a petition pursuant to either sections 445 and 446 or sections 492 and 493 and has qualified as a candidate by either procedure.

Emergency clause. In view of the emergency cited in the preamble, this Act shall take effect when approved.

Effective July 3, 1973

CHAPTER 592

AN ACT Reforming the Administration of the Property Tax and Replacing the Tax on Inventories with an Increased Corporate Income Tax.

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

Sec. 1. R. S., T. 5, § 283, sub-§ 7, additional. Section 283 of Title 5 of the Revised Statutes, as amended by section 3 of chapter 615 of the public laws of 1971, is further amended by adding a new subsection 7 to read as follows:

7. **Bureau of Property Taxation.** The Bureau of Property Taxation, the head of which shall be the State Director of Property Taxation.

Sec. 2. R. S., T. 30, § 5056, additional. Title 30 of the Revised Statutes is amended by adding a new section 5056 to read as follows:

§ 5056. **Reimbursement to municipalities for revenue loss due to certain personal property tax exemptions**

1. **Definitions.** As used in this section, unless the context otherwise indicates, the following words shall have the following meanings.

A. **Exempted personal property.** "Exempted personal property" shall mean the personal property exempted in Title 36, section 655, subsection 1, paragraphs A, B, C and D.

B. **Revenue loss.** "Revenue loss" shall be construed to mean the actual tax assessed with respect to the exempted personal property, as defined, for the tax year beginning April 1, 1973, less the tax assessed under Title 36, section 455 with respect to certain personal property.

2. **Reimbursement for revenue loss.** The Treasurer of State shall reimburse each municipality on or before December 15th, annually, for any revenue loss due to personal property exempted under Title 36, section 655, subsection 1, paragraphs A, B, C and D.

Sec. 3. R. S., T. 36, c. 4, additional. Title 36 of the Revised Statutes is amended by adding a new chapter 4 to read as follows:

CHAPTER 4

BUREAU OF PROPERTY TAXATION

§ 71. **Bureau; director**

The Bureau of Property Taxation, as heretofore created and established, shall be under the control and supervision of the State Director of Property