

MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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LAWS
OF THE
STATE OF MAINE

AS PASSED BY THE

ONE HUNDRED AND THIRTIETH LEGISLATURE

SECOND SPECIAL SESSION
September 29, 2021

SECOND REGULAR SESSION
January 5, 2022 to May 9, 2022

THE GENERAL EFFECTIVE DATE FOR
SECOND SPECIAL SESSION
NON-EMERGENCY LAWS IS
DECEMBER 29, 2021

THE GENERAL EFFECTIVE DATE FOR
SECOND REGULAR SESSION
NON-EMERGENCY LAWS IS
AUGUST 8, 2022

PUBLISHED BY THE REVISOR OF STATUTES
IN ACCORDANCE WITH THE MAINE REVISED STATUTES ANNOTATED,
TITLE 3, SECTION 163-A, SUBSECTION 4.

Augusta, Maine
2022

officer," "firefighter" and "emergency medical services person" have the same meaning as in section 328-A, subsection 1. For the purposes of this paragraph, "E-9-1-1 dispatcher" means a person who receives calls made to the E-9-1-1 system and dispatches emergency services. "E-9-1-1 dispatcher" includes an emergency medical dispatcher as defined in Title 32, chapter 2-B, section 85-A, subsection 1, paragraph D.

~~By January 1, 2022, the board shall submit a report to the joint standing committee of the Legislature having jurisdiction over labor matters that includes an analysis of the number of claims brought under this paragraph, the portion of those claims that resulted in a settlement or award of benefits and the effect of the provisions of this paragraph on costs to the State and its subdivisions. The Department of Administrative and Financial Services, Bureau of Human Resources and the Department of Public Safety shall assist the board in developing the report, and the board shall seek the input of an association, the membership of which consists exclusively of counties, municipalities and other political or administrative subdivisions, in the development of the report.~~

Each time the Legislature amends this paragraph to provide for a rebuttable presumption for a new category of employees, the board shall submit a report to the joint standing committee of the Legislature having jurisdiction over labor matters no later than the January 1st after the 5th year of the addition of the category of employees and no later than the January 1st after the 10th year of the addition of the category of employees. The reports must include an analysis of the number of claims brought under this paragraph, the portion of those claims that resulted in a settlement or award of benefits and the effect of the provisions of this paragraph on costs to the State and its subdivisions. The Department of Administrative and Financial Services, Bureau of Human Resources and the Department of Public Safety shall assist the board in developing the reports, and the board shall seek the input of an association the membership whose consists exclusively of counties, municipalities and other political or administrative subdivisions in the development of the report.

This paragraph is repealed October 1, ~~2022~~ 2025.

See title page for effective date.

CHAPTER 630 H.P. 1423 - L.D. 1917

An Act To Amend the Tax Laws of the State

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

PART A

Sec. A-1. 36 MRSA §2519, as amended by PL 2021, c. 181, Pt. A, §4, is further amended to read:

§2519. Ratio of tax on foreign insurance companies

An insurance company incorporated in the District of Columbia, a state or possession of the United States or province of Canada whose laws impose upon insurance companies chartered by this State a greater tax than is provided in this chapter shall pay the same tax upon business done by it in this State, in place of the tax provided in any other section of this chapter. If the insurance company fails to pay the tax as provided in section 2521-A, the assessor shall certify that failure to the Superintendent of Insurance, who shall suspend the insurance company's right to do business in this State. For purposes of this section, an insurance company incorporated ~~by in~~ in another country is deemed to be incorporated ~~by in~~ in the state, district or possession of the United States where it has elected to make its deposit and establish its principal agency in the United States. ~~For nonadmitted insurance premiums subject to section 2531, the rate applied pursuant to this section must be the highest rate that the state, district, possession or province applies to nonadmitted insurance premiums taxed in that state, district or possession or province.~~

Sec. A-2. 36 MRSA §2531, sub-§2, as repealed and replaced by PL 2011, c. 548, §19 and affected by §36, is amended to read:

2. Rate and incidence of tax. Except as otherwise provided in section ~~2519 or~~ 2532, the rate of taxation ~~is 3% of the on~~ is the greater of 3% and the highest rate of taxation that applies to nonadmitted insurance premiums in the state, district or possession of the United States or province of Canada in which the insurer is incorporated. For purposes of this section, an insurance company incorporated in another country is deemed to be incorporated in the state, district or possession of the United States where it has elected to make its deposit and establish its principal agency in the United States. For all coverage placed in accordance with Title 24-A, chapter 19, the tax must be paid by the surplus lines producer. For all other nonadmitted insurance, the tax must be paid by the insured.

Sec. A-3. 36 MRSA §5255-B, as amended by PL 1999, c. 414, §53, is further amended to read:

§5255-B. Certain items of income under the United States Internal Revenue Code

~~Any~~ A person maintaining an office or transacting business within this State and who that is required to deduct and withhold a tax on items of income under the Code, other than wages subject to withholding as provided in section 5250 ~~or~~ sales of real estate subject to withholding as provided in section 5250-A or gambling winnings subject to withholding as provided in section 5255-C, shall deduct and withhold from such items, to the extent they constitute income that is not excluded from taxation under Maine law, a tax equal to 5% of the income, unless withholding pursuant to the Code is based on other than a flat rate amount. In that event, the State's withholding procedure ~~should~~ must estimate taxable income using the same approach to exemptions as the Code and the amount of tax to be withheld ~~should~~ must be calculated in accordance with withholding methods prescribed pursuant to section 5250.

Sec. A-4. 36 MRSA §5255-C is enacted to read:

§5255-C. Withholding on certain gambling winnings

A person maintaining an office or transacting business within this State that is required to deduct and withhold a tax on items of income under the Code, Section 3402(q) shall deduct and withhold from such items, to the extent they constitute income that is not excluded from taxation under Maine law, a tax equal to those winnings multiplied by the highest marginal tax rate under section 5111 applicable to the tax year during which the winnings are paid plus any other tax applicable to the winnings under this Part.

Sec. A-5. Application. Those sections of this Part that amend the Maine Revised Statutes, Title 36, section 2519 and section 2531, subsection 2 apply to tax periods beginning on or after January 1, 2023.

PART B

Sec. B-1. 36 MRSA §208, as repealed and replaced by PL 2019, c. 607, Pt. A, §4, is amended to read:

§208. Equalization

The State Tax Assessor has the duty of equalizing the ~~state and~~ county taxes among all municipalities and the unorganized territory. The State Tax Assessor shall equalize and adjust the assessment list of each municipality by adding to or deducting from it such amount as will make it equal to its just value as of April 1st. Notice of the proposed valuations of municipalities within each county must be sent annually to the municipal officers of each municipality within that county on or before the first day of October. The valuation so determined is subject to review by the State Board of Property Tax Review pursuant to subchapter 2-A, but the

valuation finally certified to the Secretary of State pursuant to section 381 must be used for all computations required by law to be based upon the state valuation with respect to municipalities. A municipality shall provide to the State Tax Assessor, upon request, such information as may be necessary for the State Tax Assessor to carry out the purposes of this section.

Sec. B-2. 36 MRSA §652, sub-§1, ¶A, as amended by PL 2007, c. 627, §20, is further amended to read:

A. The real estate and personal property owned and occupied or used solely for their own purposes by incorporated benevolent and charitable institutions ~~incorporated by this State~~ are exempt from taxation. Such an institution may not be deprived of the right of exemption by reason of the source from which its funds are derived or by reason of limitation in the classes of persons for whose benefit the funds are applied.

For the purposes of this paragraph, "benevolent and charitable institutions" includes, but is not limited to, nonprofit nursing homes licensed by the Department of Health and Human Services pursuant to Title 22, chapter 405, nonprofit residential care facilities licensed by the Department of Health and Human Services pursuant to Title 22, chapter 1663, nonprofit community mental health service facilities licensed by the Commissioner of Health and Human Services in accordance with rules adopted pursuant to Title 34-B, chapter 3 and nonprofit child care centers incorporated by this State as benevolent and charitable institutions. For the purposes of this paragraph, "nonprofit" refers to an institution that has been determined by the United States Internal Revenue Service to be exempt from taxation under Section 501(c)(3) of the Code.

Sec. B-3. 36 MRSA §706-A, sub-§1, as enacted by PL 2017, c. 367, §5, is amended to read:

1. Taxpayers to list property; inquiries. Before making an assessment, the assessor ~~or assessors, chief assessor of a primary assessing area or State Tax Assessor in the case of the unorganized territory~~ may give seasonable ~~timely~~ notice in writing to all persons liable to taxation or qualifying for an exemption pursuant to subchapter 4-C in the municipality, the primary assessing area or the unorganized territory subject to full or partial reimbursement by the State to furnish to the assessor ~~or assessors, chief assessor or State Tax Assessor~~ true and perfect lists of all the property the taxpayer possessed on the first day of April of the same year and may at the time of the notice or thereafter require the taxpayer to answer in writing all proper inquiries as to the nature, situation and value of the taxpayer's property liable to be taxed in the State or subject to an exemption pursuant to subchapter 4-C subject to full or partial reimbursement by the State. The list and answers are not

conclusive upon the assessor ~~or assessors, chief assessor or State Tax Assessor.~~

As may be reasonably necessary to ascertain the value of property according to the income approach to value pursuant to the requirements of section 208-A or generally accepted assessing practices, these inquiries may seek information about income and expense, manufacturing or operational efficiencies, manufactured or generated sales price trends or other related information.

A taxpayer has 30 days from receipt of a request for a true and perfect list or of proper inquiries to respond to the request or inquiries. Upon written request to the assessor ~~or assessors, chief assessor of a primary assessing area or State Tax Assessor in the case of the unorganized territory,~~ a taxpayer is entitled to a 30-day extension to respond to the request for a true and perfect list or proper inquiries, and the assessor may at any time grant additional extensions upon written request. Information provided by the taxpayer in response to an inquiry that is proprietary information, and is clearly labeled by the taxpayer as proprietary and confidential information, is confidential and is not a public record for purposes of Title 1, chapter 13.

A notice to or inquiry of a taxpayer made under this section may be by mail directed to the last known address of the taxpayer or by any other method that provides reasonable notice to the taxpayer.

If notice is given by mail and the taxpayer does not furnish the list and answers to all proper inquiries, the taxpayer may not apply to the assessor ~~or assessors, chief assessor of a primary assessing area or State Tax Assessor in the case of the unorganized territory~~ for an abatement or appeal an application for abatement of those taxes unless the taxpayer furnishes the list and answers with the application and satisfies the assessing authority or authority to whom an appeal is made that the taxpayer was unable to furnish the list and answers in the time required. The list and answers are not conclusive upon the assessor ~~or assessors, chief assessor or State Tax Assessor.~~

If the assessor ~~or assessors, chief assessor of a primary assessing area or State Tax Assessor in the case of the unorganized territory~~ fails to give notice by mail, the taxpayer is not prohibited from applying for an abatement; however, upon demand, the taxpayer shall furnish the list and answer in writing all proper inquiries as to the nature, situation and value of the taxpayer's property liable to be taxed in the State. A taxpayer's refusal or neglect to answer the inquiries bars an appeal, but the list and answers are not conclusive upon the assessor ~~or assessors, chief assessor or State Tax Assessor.~~

The assessor ~~or assessors, chief assessor of a primary assessing area or State Tax Assessor in the case of the unorganized territory~~ may require the person furnishing

the list and answers to all proper inquiries to subscribe under oath to the truth of the list and answers.

Sec. B-4. 36 MRSA §1483, sub-§7, as amended by PL 2009, c. 434, §20, is further amended to read:

7. Benevolent and charitable institutions. Vehicles owned and used solely for their own purposes by benevolent and charitable institutions ~~that are incorporated by this State and~~ entitled to exemption from property tax under section 652, subsection 1;

Sec. B-5. 36 MRSA §6234, as enacted by PL 2021, c. 69, §1, is amended to read:

§6234. Municipal authority; veterans

The legislative body of a municipality may by ordinance adopt a program to provide benefits to veterans with homesteads owning or renting a permanent residence in the municipality.

1. Definitions. For the purposes of this section, the following terms have the following meanings.

~~A. "Homestead" has the same meaning as in section 681, subsection 2.~~

A-1. "Permanent residence" has the same meaning as in section 681, subsection 3.

B. "Veteran" has the same meaning as in section 653, subsection 1, paragraph E and includes any family members eligible for an exemption under that subsection.

2. Conditions of program. A program adopted under this section must:

A. Require that the claimant has maintained a homestead permanent residence in the municipality for a certain period of time, as determined by the municipality;

B. Provide benefits for both owners and renters of homesteads permanent residences; and

C. Calculate benefits in a way that provides that:

(1) If the claimant is the owner of the property, the benefit is equal to the difference between the reduction in property tax due to the exemptions provided in section 653 and the amount of property tax reduction that would have applied if the assessed value of the property was the same as the just value; and

(2) If the claimant is a renter, the benefit is equal to \$100.

3. Repeal of program. A municipality that has adopted a program under this section may repeal it through the same procedure by which the program was adopted.

Sec. B-6. 36 MRSA §6251, sub-§6, as amended by PL 2021, c. 483, Pt. AA, §6, is further amended to read:

6. Appeal. A taxpayer aggrieved by the denial of a claim for deferral of homestead property taxes or disqualification from deferral of homestead property taxes may file an appeal of the State Tax Assessor's determination, within 30 days of notification of denial or disqualification by the State Tax Assessor, with the State Board of Property Tax Review as provided in chapter 101, subchapter 2-A. ~~When the State Tax Assessor disagrees with the municipal valuation of a property subject to deferral, the abatement and appeals process under chapter 105, subchapter 8 applies.~~

PART C

Sec. C-1. 36 MRSA §501, sub-§1-A is enacted to read:

1-A. Current use program. "Current use program" means the:

A. Maine Tree Growth Tax Law established in subchapter 2-A;

B. Farm and open space tax law established in subchapter 10; and

C. Current use valuation of certain working waterfront land tax law established in subchapter 10-A.

Sec. C-2. 36 MRSA §578, sub-§1, as amended by PL 2021, c. 398, Pt. J, §1, is further amended by amending the first blocked paragraph to read:

The State Tax Assessor shall determine annually the amount of acreage in each municipality that is classified and taxed in accordance with this subchapter. Each municipality is entitled to annual payments distributed in accordance with this section from money appropriated by the Legislature if it submits a completed annual return in accordance with section 383. The State Tax Assessor shall pay any municipal claim found to be in satisfactory form by October 15th of the year following the submission of the annual return. The total municipal reimbursement appropriation is calculated on the basis of 90% of the tax lost as a result of this subchapter. For purposes of this section, "classified forest lands" means forest lands classified pursuant to this subchapter as well as all areas identified as forested land within farm-land parcels that are transferred from tree growth classification ~~pursuant to section 1112~~ on or after October 1, 2011. For the purposes of this section, "tax lost" means the tax that would have been assessed, but for this subchapter, on the classified forest lands if they were assessed according to the current regional per acre undeveloped land value as determined for state valuation purposes, or according to the current local per acre undeveloped land value as determined for state valuation purposes, whichever is less, minus the tax that was actually assessed on the same lands in accordance with

this subchapter, and adjusted for the aggregate municipal savings in required educational costs attributable to the reduction in state valuation as a result of this subchapter. A municipality that fails to achieve the minimum assessment ratio established in section 327 loses 10% of the reimbursement provided by this section for each one percentage point the minimum assessment ratio falls below the ratio established in section 327.

Sec. C-3. 36 MRSA §578, sub-§1, ¶C, as amended by PL 2021, c. 398, Pt. J, §1, is further amended by amending subparagraph (2), division (a) to read:

(a) Classified under the laws governing a current use ~~valuation set forth in chapter 105, subchapter 2-A, 10 or 10-A~~ program;

Sec. C-4. 36 MRSA §581, sub-§1-A, as amended by PL 2011, c. 618, §4, is further amended to read:

1-A. Notice of compliance. No earlier than 185 days prior to a deadline established by section 574-B, if the ~~landowner~~ owner has not yet complied with the requirements of that section, the assessor must provide the ~~landowner~~ owner with written notice by certified mail informing the ~~landowner~~ owner of the statutory requirements that need to be met to comply with section 574-B and the date of the deadline for compliance or by which the parcel may be transferred to ~~open space classification pursuant to subchapter 10~~ another current use program. The notice must also state that if the owner fails to meet the deadline for complying with section 574-B or transferring the parcel to ~~open space classification~~ another current use program, a supplemental assessment of \$500 will be assessed and that continued noncompliance will lead to a subsequent supplemental assessment of \$500. If the notice is issued less than 120 days before the deadline, the owner has 120 days from the date of the notice to provide the assessor with the documentation to achieve compliance with section 574-B or transfer the parcel to ~~open space classification~~ another current use program, and the notice must specify the date by which the owner must comply.

If the ~~landowner~~ owner fails to provide the assessor with the documentation to achieve compliance with section 574-B or transfer the parcel to ~~open space classification pursuant to subchapter 10~~ another current use program by the deadline specified in the notice, the assessor shall impose a \$500 penalty to be assessed and collected as a supplemental assessment in accordance with section 713-B. The assessor shall send notification of the supplemental assessment by certified mail and notify the ~~landowner~~ owner that, no later than 6 months from the date of the 2nd notice, the ~~landowner~~ owner must comply with the requirements of section 574-B or transfer the parcel to ~~open space classification pursuant to subchapter 10~~ another current use program and that failure to comply will result in an additional supplemental assessment of \$500 and the ~~landowner~~ owner

will have an additional 6-month period in which to comply with these requirements before the withdrawal of the parcel and the assessment of substantial financial penalties against the ~~landowner owner~~.

At the expiration of 6 months, if the ~~landowner owner~~ has not complied with section 574-B or transferred the parcel to ~~open space classification under subchapter 10~~ another current use program, the assessor shall assess an additional \$500 supplemental assessment. The assessor shall send notification of the 2nd supplemental assessment by certified mail and notify the ~~landowner owner~~ that, no later than 6 months from the date of the notice, the ~~landowner owner~~ must comply with the requirements of section 574-B or transfer the parcel to ~~open space classification pursuant to subchapter 10~~ another current use program or the land will be withdrawn from ~~the tree growth tax program~~ taxation under this subchapter.

If the ~~landowner owner~~ has not complied within 6 months from the date of the 2nd supplemental assessment, the assessor shall remove the parcel from taxation under this subchapter and assess a penalty for the parcel's withdrawal pursuant to subsection 3.

This subsection does not limit the assessor from issuing other notices or compliance reminders to ~~property~~ owners at any time in addition to the notice required by this subsection.

Sec. C-5. 36 MRSA §581, sub-§3, as repealed and replaced by PL 2007, c. 627, §16, is amended to read:

3. Penalty. If land is withdrawn from taxation under this subchapter, the assessor shall impose a penalty upon the owner. The penalty is the greater of:

A. An amount equal to the taxes that would have been assessed on the land on the first day of April for the 5 tax years, or any lesser number of tax years starting with the year in which the land was first classified, preceding the withdrawal had that land been assessed in each of those years at its just value on the date of withdrawal. ~~That amount must be reduced by less~~ all taxes paid on that land over the preceding 5 years, or any lesser number of tax years starting with the year in which the land was first classified, and increased by interest at the prevailing municipal rate from the date or dates on which those amounts would have been payable; and

B. An amount computed by multiplying the amount, if any, by which the just value of the land on the date of withdrawal exceeds the 100% valuation of the land pursuant to this subchapter on the preceding April 1st by the following rates.

(1) If the land was subject to valuation under this subchapter for 10 years or ~~less~~ fewer prior to the date of withdrawal, the rate is 30%.

(2) If the land was subject to valuation under this subchapter for more than 10 years prior to the date of withdrawal, the rate is ~~that percentage obtained by subtracting 1% from 30%~~ reduced by one percentage point for each full year beyond 10 years that the land was subject to valuation under this subchapter prior to the date of withdrawal, except that the minimum rate is 20%.

For purposes of this subsection, just value at the time of withdrawal is the assessed just value of comparable property in the municipality adjusted by the municipality's certified assessment ratio.

Sec. C-6. 36 MRSA §581, sub-§4, as repealed and replaced by PL 2007, c. 627, §16, is amended to read:

4. Assessment and collection of penalties. The ~~owner shall pay the~~ penalties for withdrawal under this section ~~must be paid~~ upon withdrawal to the tax collector as additional property taxes. Penalties may be assessed and collected as supplemental assessments in accordance with section 713-B.

Sec. C-7. 36 MRSA §581, sub-§5, as repealed and replaced by PL 2007, c. 627, §16, is amended to read:

5. Eminent domain. A penalty may not be assessed under this section ~~for a~~ if the withdrawal of the parcel is occasioned by a transfer to ~~an~~ the State or other entity holding the power of eminent domain ~~if the transfer results~~ resulting from the exercise or threatened exercise of that power.

Sec. C-8. 36 MRSA §581, sub-§6, as repealed and replaced by PL 2007, c. 627, §16, is amended to read:

6. Relief from requirements. Upon withdrawal ~~under this section~~, the land is relieved of the requirements of this subchapter immediately and is returned to taxation under ~~chapter 105~~, subchapter 2 beginning the following April 1st following withdrawal.

Sec. C-9. 36 MRSA §581, sub-§7, as repealed and replaced by PL 2007, c. 627, §16, is amended to read:

7. Reclassification as farmland or open space land under other current use program. A penalty may not be assessed upon the withdrawal of land from taxation under this subchapter if the owner applies for classification of that land ~~as farmland or open space land under subchapter 10~~ in another current use program prior to withdrawal and that application is accepted. If a penalty is later assessed under section ~~1112~~ 1112-C or 1138, the period of time that the land was taxed as forest land under this subchapter is included for purposes of establishing the amount of the penalty.

Sec. C-10. 36 MRSA §713-B, as enacted by PL 1993, c. 452, §6, is amended to read:

§713-B. Penalties assessed as supplemental assessments

Penalties imposed under section 581 ~~or 1112, 1112-C or 1138~~ may be assessed as supplemental assessments pursuant to section 713 regardless of the number of years applicable in determining the penalty.

Sec. C-11. 36 MRSA §1109, sub-§5, as repealed and replaced by PL 2007, c. 438, §28, is amended by amending the first blocked paragraph to read:

If the owner fails to report to the assessor as required by this subsection, the assessor shall assess those taxes ~~that should have been required to be paid~~, shall assess the penalty provided in section ~~1112~~ 1112-C and shall assess an additional penalty equal to 25% of the penalty provided in section ~~1112~~ 1112-C. The assessor may waive the additional penalty for cause.

Sec. C-12. 36 MRSA §1112, as amended by PL 2019, c. 379, Pt. A, §6, is repealed.

Sec. C-13. 36 MRSA §1112-C is enacted to read:

§1112-C. Recapture penalty

1. Assessor determination; owner request. If the assessor determines that land subject to this subchapter no longer meets the requirements of this subchapter, the assessor shall withdraw the land from taxation under this subchapter. The owner of land subject to this subchapter may at any time request withdrawal of any of the owner's land from taxation under this subchapter by certifying in writing to the assessor that the land is no longer to be classified under this subchapter. For purposes of this section, the transfer of land between different classifications within this subchapter does not constitute a withdrawal.

2. Withdrawal of portion. In the case of withdrawal of a portion of farmland or open space land, the owner, as a condition of withdrawal, shall file with the assessor a schedule including the information required under section 1109 showing the area withdrawn and the area remaining under this subchapter.

3. Penalty. If land is withdrawn from taxation under this subchapter, the assessor shall impose a penalty upon the owner. The penalty is the greater of:

A. An amount equal to the taxes that would have been assessed on the land on the first day of April for the 5 tax years, or any lesser number of tax years starting with the year in which the land was first classified, preceding the withdrawal had that land been assessed in each of those years at its just value on the date of withdrawal less all taxes paid on that land over the preceding 5 years, or any lesser number of tax years starting with the year in

which the land was first classified, and increased by interest at the prevailing municipal rate from the date or dates on which those amounts would have been payable; and

B. An amount computed by multiplying the amount, if any, by which the just value of the land on the date of withdrawal exceeds the 100% valuation of the land pursuant to this subchapter on the preceding April 1st by the following rates:

(1) If the land was subject to valuation under this subchapter for 10 years or fewer prior to the date of withdrawal, the rate is 30%; and

(2) If the land was subject to valuation under this subchapter for more than 10 years prior to the date of withdrawal, the rate is 30% reduced by one percentage point for each full year beyond 10 years that the land was subject to valuation under this subchapter prior to the date of withdrawal, except that the minimum rate is 20%.

For purposes of this subsection, just value at the time of withdrawal is the assessed just value of comparable property in the municipality adjusted by the municipality's certified assessment ratio.

4. Assessment and collection of penalties. The owner shall pay the penalties for withdrawal upon withdrawal to the tax collector as additional property taxes. Penalties may be assessed and collected as supplemental assessments in accordance with section 713-B.

5. Eminent domain. A penalty may not be assessed under this section if the withdrawal of the parcel is occasioned by a transfer to the State or other entity holding the power of eminent domain resulting from the exercise or threatened exercise of that power.

6. Relief from requirements. Upon withdrawal, the land is relieved of the requirements of this subchapter immediately and is returned to taxation under subchapter 2 beginning the April 1st following withdrawal.

7. Reclassification under other current use program. A penalty may not be assessed upon the withdrawal of land from taxation under this subchapter if the owner applies for classification of that land in another current use program prior to withdrawal and the application is accepted. If a penalty is later assessed under section 581 or 1138, the period of time that the land was taxed as farmland or open space land under this subchapter is included for purposes of establishing the amount of the penalty.

8. Report of penalty. A municipality that receives a penalty for the withdrawal of land from taxation under this subchapter shall report to the State Tax Assessor the total amount received in that reporting year on the municipal valuation return form described in section 383.

9. Collection of farmland penalty; annual installments. An owner of farmland that has been classified under this subchapter for 5 full years or more may pay any penalty owed under this section in up to 5 equal annual installments with interest at the rate set by the municipality, which begins to accrue 60 days after the date of assessment. Notwithstanding section 943, for an owner paying a penalty under this subsection, the period during which the tax lien mortgage, including interest and costs, must be paid to avoid foreclosure and expiration of the right of redemption is 48 months from the date of the filing of the tax lien certificate.

Sec. C-14. 36 MRSA §1113, as amended by PL 2009, c. 496, §9, is further amended to read:

§1113. Enforcement provision

A lien is created to secure the payment of the penalties provided in section 1109, subsections 2 and 5 and section ~~1112~~ 1112-C, which may be enforced in the same manner as liens created by section 552.

Sec. C-15. 36 MRSA §1115, as amended by PL 2009, c. 496, §10, is further amended to read:

§1115. Transfer of portion of parcel of land

Transfer of a portion of a parcel of farmland subject to taxation under this subchapter does not affect the taxation under this subchapter of the resulting parcels unless they do not meet the minimum acreage requirements of this subchapter. Transfer of a portion of a parcel of open space land subject to taxation under this subchapter does not affect the taxation under this subchapter of the resulting parcels unless either or both of the parcels no longer provide a public benefit in one of the areas enumerated in section 1102, subsection 6. Each resulting parcel must be taxed to the owners under this subchapter until it is withdrawn from taxation under this subchapter, in which case the penalties provided in section ~~1112~~ 1112-C apply only to the owner of that parcel. If the transfer of a portion of a parcel of farmland subject to taxation under this subchapter results in the creation of a parcel that is less than the minimum acreage required by this subchapter or if the transfer of a portion of a parcel of open space land subject to taxation under this subchapter results in the creation of a parcel that no longer provides a public benefit in one of the areas enumerated in section 1102, subsection 6, that parcel is deemed to have been withdrawn from taxation under this subchapter as a result of the transfer and is subject to the penalties provided in section ~~1112~~ 1112-C.

Sec. C-16. 36 MRSA §1121, as amended by PL 2001, c. 652, §9 and PL 2011, c. 657, Pt. W, §5, is further amended to read:

§1121. Program monitoring

The Department of Agriculture, Conservation and Forestry and the Bureau of Revenue Services shall periodically review the level of participation in the farm and open space tax program, the taxes saved due to that

participation, the fiscal impact, if any, on municipalities, including the impact of any penalties assessed under section ~~1112~~ 1112-C and the effectiveness of the program in preserving farmland and open space. The department and the bureau may report to the joint standing committee of the Legislature having jurisdiction over taxation matters on the status of the program. The department and the bureau may identify problems that prevent realization of the purposes of this subchapter and potential solutions to remedy those problems.

Sec. C-17. 36 MRSA §1138, as enacted by PL 2007, c. 466, Pt. A, §58, is amended to read:

§1138. Recapture penalty

1. Assessor determination; owner request. If the assessor determines that land subject to this subchapter no longer meets the requirements of this subchapter, the assessor must withdraw the land from taxation under this subchapter. The owner ~~or owners~~ of land subject to this subchapter may at any time request withdrawal of any land from taxation under this subchapter by certifying in writing to the assessor that the land is no longer to be classified under this subchapter.

2. Withdrawal of portion. In the case of withdrawal of a portion of the working waterfront land, the owner ~~or owners~~, as a condition of withdrawal, shall file with the assessor a schedule including the information required under section 1137, subsection 1 showing the area withdrawn and the area remaining under this subchapter.

3. Penalty. If land is withdrawn from taxation under this subchapter, the assessor shall impose a penalty upon the owner ~~or owners~~. The penalty is the greater of:

A. An amount equal to the taxes that would have been assessed on the land on the first day of April for the 5 tax years, or any lesser number of tax years starting with the year in which the ~~property~~ land was first classified, preceding ~~such the~~ withdrawal had ~~such real estate that land~~ been assessed in each of those years at its just value on the date of withdrawal less all taxes paid on that ~~real estate~~ land over the preceding 5 years, or any lesser number of tax years starting with the year in which the land was first classified, and increased by interest at the prevailing municipal rate from the date or dates on which those amounts would have been payable; and

B. An amount computed by multiplying the amount, if any, by which the ~~fair market~~ just value of the ~~real estate~~ land on the date of withdrawal exceeds the 100% valuation of the ~~real estate~~ land pursuant to this subchapter on the preceding April 1st by the following rates:

(1) If the ~~real estate~~ land was subject to valuation under this subchapter for 10 years or less

prior to the date of withdrawal, the rate is 30%; and

(2) If the real-estate land was subject to valuation under this subchapter for more than 10 years prior to the date of withdrawal, the rate is ~~that percentage obtained by subtracting 1% from 30% reduced by one percentage point for each full year beyond 10 years that the real-estate land~~ was subject to valuation under this subchapter prior to the date of withdrawal ~~until a, except that the minimum rate of is 20% is reached.~~

For purposes of this ~~section subsection~~, just value at the time of withdrawal is the assessed just value of comparable property in the municipality adjusted by the municipality's certified assessment ratio.

4. Assessment and collection of penalties. The owner shall pay the penalties for withdrawal must be paid upon withdrawal to the tax collector as additional property taxes. Penalties may be assessed and collected as supplemental assessments in accordance with section 713-B.

5. Eminent domain. A penalty may not be assessed under this section if the withdrawal of the parcel is occasioned by a transfer to the State or other entity holding the power of eminent domain resulting from the exercise or threatened exercise of that power.

6. Relief from requirements. Upon withdrawal, the land is relieved of the requirements of this subchapter immediately and is returned to taxation under ~~the statutes relating to the taxation of real property to be so taxed on~~ subchapter 2 beginning the following April 1st following withdrawal.

7. Reclassification as open space under other current use program. ~~No A~~ penalty may ~~not~~ be assessed upon the withdrawal of land from taxation under this subchapter if the owner ~~or owners apply~~ applies for ~~and are accepted for~~ classification of that land ~~as open space land under subchapter 10 in another current use program prior to withdrawal and that application is accepted.~~ If a penalty is later assessed under section 581 or section 1112-C, the period of time that the land was taxed as working waterfront land under this subchapter is included for purposes of establishing the amount of the penalty.

8. Report of penalty. Any municipality that receives a penalty for the withdrawal of land from taxation under this subchapter shall report to the State Tax Assessor the total amount received in that reporting year on the municipal valuation return form described in section 383.

PART D

Sec. D-1. 23 MRSA §4210-B, sub-§7-A, as amended by PL 2021, c. 446, §1, is further amended to read:

7-A. Sales tax revenue. ~~Beginning July 1, 2012 and every On July 1st thereafter, except as provided in Title 36, section 1820 of each year, the State Controller shall transfer to the Multimodal Transportation Fund an amount, as certified by the State Tax Assessor, that is equivalent to 100% of the revenue from the tax imposed on the value of rental of a pickup truck or van with a gross weight of less than 26,000 pounds rented from a person primarily engaged in the business of renting automobiles and the value of rental for a period of less than one year of an automobile pursuant to Title 36, section 1811 for the first 6 months of the prior fiscal year after the reduction for the transfer to the Local Government Fund as described by Title 30-A, section 5681, subsection 5 and the transfer to the ATV Recreational Management Fund pursuant to Title 36, section 1820.~~ Beginning on October 1, 2012 and every On October 1st thereafter, except as provided in Title 36, section 1820 of each year, the State Controller shall transfer to the Multimodal Transportation Fund an amount, as certified by the State Tax Assessor, that is equivalent to 100% of the revenue from the tax imposed on the value of rental of a pickup truck or van with a gross weight of less than 26,000 pounds rented from a person primarily engaged in the business of renting automobiles and the value of rental for a period of less than one year of an automobile pursuant to Title 36, section 1811 for the last 6 months of the prior fiscal year after the reduction for the transfer to the Local Government Fund as described by Title 30-A, section 5681, subsection 5 and the transfer to the ATV Recreational Management Fund pursuant to Title 36, section 1820. The tax amount must be based on actual sales for that fiscal year and may not consider any accruals that may be required by law.

Sec. D-2. 36 MRSA §1820, as enacted by PL 2021, c. 446, §2, is amended to read:

§1820. Tax on rental of all-terrain vehicles

By the 20th day of each month beginning January 1, 2022 ~~and ending July 20, 2022~~, the assessor shall notify the State Controller and the Treasurer of State of the amount of revenue attributable to the tax collected under this Part on the rental of all-terrain vehicles as defined in Title 12, section 13001, subsection 3. When notified by the assessor, the State Controller shall transfer 90% of that amount to the ATV Recreational Management Fund established in Title 12, section 1893, subsection 2 and 10% to the Multimodal Transportation Fund established in Title 23, section 4210-B.

Beginning July 1, 2023 and every July 1st thereafter, the State Controller shall transfer to the ATV Recreational Management Fund established in Title 12, section 1893, subsection 2 an amount, as certified by the State Tax Assessor, that is equivalent to 90% of the revenue from the tax imposed under this Part on the rental of all-terrain vehicles for the first 6 months of the prior fiscal year after the reduction for the transfer to the Lo-

cal Government Fund as described by Title 30-A, section 5681, subsection 5. Beginning on October 1, 2023 and every October 1st thereafter, the State Controller shall transfer to the ATV Recreational Management Fund an amount, as certified by the State Tax Assessor, that is equivalent to 90% of the revenue from the tax imposed under this Part on the rental of all-terrain vehicles for the last 6 months of the prior fiscal year after the reduction for the transfer to the Local Government Fund as described by Title 30-A, section 5681, subsection 5. The remaining 10% of the revenue from the tax imposed under this Part on the rental of all-terrain vehicles is transferred to the Multimodal Transportation Fund pursuant to Title 23, section 4210-B, subsection 7-A. The tax amount must be based on actual sales for that fiscal year and may not consider any accruals that may be required by law.

See title page for effective date.

CHAPTER 631 S.P. 678 - L.D. 1923

An Act To Establish the Maine Space Corporation

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

Sec. 1. 5 MRSA c. 393 is enacted to read:

CHAPTER 393

MAINE SPACE CORPORATION

§13201. Maine Space Corporation established

The Maine Space Corporation is established as a body corporate and politic to carry out the purposes of this chapter. The corporation shall leverage the State's geographic, rocketry, manufacturing and higher education assets and capabilities to establish the State as a national and international industry destination and an authority in launching small launch vehicles and small satellites into polar orbit by:

1. Properties. Acquiring and managing properties within the geographic boundaries of the State to develop and operate the Maine Space Complex and its ancillary facilities;

2. Permits. Facilitating the acquisition of permits for launch sites from the Federal Government in order to host launch providers;

3. Workforce. Facilitating the creation of a highly skilled workforce and attracting and retaining young workers in a new space economy. The corporation shall work closely with the University of Maine System, the Maine Community College System, career and technical education centers and regions and satellite programs, elementary and secondary schools and other organizations in the State to ensure education, training

and recruitment programs are in place for the primary purpose of ensuring the availability of a highly skilled workforce to support the State's new space economy;

4. Facilities. Providing facilities for research and development; small rocket and small satellite manufacturing, integration, testing and evaluation; and education and tourism;

5. Education. Enhancing science, technology, engineering and mathematics education and engagement in kindergarten to grade 12 and higher education curricula through partnerships with private industry to explore use cases for satellite data;

6. Business intelligence. Providing satellite-derived business intelligence for local industries to improve decision making;

7. Businesses and jobs. Facilitating new high-tech and data-driven businesses and jobs creation;

8. Engagement. Serving as a place to engage and inspire the public through programming;

9. Out-of-state. Attracting out-of-state businesses, business visitors and tourists to the State; and

10. Revenue. Creating new revenue and expanding the tax base of the primary impact communities as an international asset.

§13202. Definitions

As used in this chapter, unless the context otherwise indicates, the following terms have the following meanings.

1. Board of directors. "Board of directors" means the board of directors of the corporation established in section 13203, subsection 4.

2. Bond. "Bond" means a bond or note or other evidence of indebtedness authorized under this chapter, whether issued under or pursuant to a bond resolution, trust indenture, loan or other security agreement.

3. Corporation. "Corporation" means the Maine Space Corporation established in section 13201.

4. Maine Space Complex. "Maine Space Complex" or "complex" means the Maine Space Complex established pursuant to section 13203, subsection 1.

5. New space economy. "New space economy" means the full range of decentralized, diversified, entrepreneurial and accessible activities and the use of resources and players across industries that create value and benefits to human beings in the course of exploring, researching, understanding, managing and using extra-terrestrial space.

6. Operating revenues. "Operating revenues" means funds available to the corporation from fees, fares and rental or sale of property and miscellaneous revenue and interest not otherwise pledged or dedicated.