



129th MAINE LEGISLATURE

FIRST REGULAR SESSION-2019

Legislative Document

No. 164

S.P. 51

In Senate, January 17, 2019

An Act To Reduce Property Taxes for Maine Residents

Reference to the Committee on Taxation suggested and ordered printed.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'D M Grant'.

DAREK M. GRANT
Secretary of the Senate

Presented by Senator POULIOT of Kennebec.
Cosponsored by Representative PIERCE of Falmouth and
Senator: LIBBY of Androscoggin, Representatives: BICKFORD of Auburn, DOORE of
Augusta, MADIGAN of Waterville.

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

2 **Sec. 1. 36 MRSA §683, sub-§1-B**, as enacted by PL 2015, c. 267, Pt. J, §1, is
3 amended to read:

4 **1-B. Additional exemption.** A homestead eligible for an exemption under
5 subsection 1 is eligible for an additional exemption of \$5,000 of the just value of the
6 homestead for property tax years beginning on April 1, 2016 ~~and of~~ \$10,000 of the just
7 value of the homestead for property tax years beginning on or after April 1, 2017 and
8 \$40,000 of the just value of the homestead for property tax years beginning on or after
9 April 1, 2020.

10 **Sec. 2. 36 MRSA §683, sub-§§3 and 4**, as amended by PL 2017, c. 284, Pt. G,
11 §1, are further amended to read:

12 **3. Effect on state valuation.** For property tax years beginning before April 1, 2018,
13 50% of the just value of all the homestead exemptions under this subchapter must be
14 included in the annual determination of state valuation under sections 208 and 305. For
15 property tax years beginning on or after April 1, 2018 and before April 1, 2020, 62.5% of
16 the just value of all the homestead exemptions under this subchapter must be included in
17 the annual determination of state valuation under sections 208 and 305. For property tax
18 years beginning on or after April 1, 2020, 100% of the just value of all the homestead
19 exemptions under this subchapter must be included in the annual determination of state
20 valuation under sections 208 and 305.

21 **4. Property tax rate.** For property tax years beginning before April 1, 2018, 50% of
22 the just value of all the homestead exemptions under this subchapter must be included in
23 the total municipal valuation used to determine the municipal tax rate. For property tax
24 years beginning on or after April 1, 2018 and before April 1, 2020, 62.5% of the just
25 value of all the homestead exemptions under this subchapter must be included in the total
26 municipal valuation used to determine the municipal tax rate. For property tax years
27 beginning on or after April 1, 2020, 100% of the just value of all the homestead
28 exemptions under this subchapter must be included in the total municipal valuation used
29 to determine the municipal tax rate. The municipal tax rate as finally determined may be
30 applied to only the taxable portion of each homestead qualified for that tax year.

31 **Sec. 3. 36 MRSA §685, sub-§2**, as amended by PL 2017, c. 284, Pt. G, §2, is
32 further amended to read:

33 **2. Entitlement to reimbursement by the State; calculation.** A municipality that
34 has approved homestead exemptions under this subchapter may recover from the State:

35 A. For property tax years beginning before April 1, 2018, 50% of the taxes lost by
36 reason of the exemptions under section 683, subsections 1 and 1-B; ~~and~~

37 B. For property tax years beginning on or after April 1, 2018 and before April 1,
38 2020, 62.5% of the taxes lost by reason of the exemptions under section 683,
39 subsections 1 and 1-B; and

