

CHAPTER 303

DEORGANIZED PLACES

§7301. Applicability to deorganization by Legislature

This chapter applies to any municipalities or plantations that are or have been deorganized by Act of the Legislature. [PL 1987, c. 737, Pt. A, §2 (NEW); PL 1987, c. 737, Pt. C, §106 (NEW); PL 1989, c. 6 (AMD); PL 1989, c. 9, §2 (AMD); PL 1989, c. 104, Pt. C, §§8, 10 (AMD).]

SECTION HISTORY

PL 1987, c. 737, §§A2,C106 (NEW). PL 1989, c. 6 (AMD). PL 1989, c. 9, §2 (AMD). PL 1989, c. 104, §§C8,10 (AMD).

§7302. Records surrendered

Whenever any municipality is deorganized, the municipality shall surrender all its records to the State Archivist. [PL 1987, c. 737, Pt. A, §2 (NEW); PL 1987, c. 737, Pt. C, §106 (NEW); PL 1989, c. 6 (AMD); PL 1989, c. 9, §2 (AMD); PL 1989, c. 104, Pt. C, §§8, 10 (AMD).]

SECTION HISTORY

PL 1987, c. 737, §§A2,C106 (NEW). PL 1989, c. 6 (AMD). PL 1989, c. 9, §2 (AMD). PL 1989, c. 104, §§C8,10 (AMD).

§7303. Debts of municipalities and school districts therein

When municipalities are deorganized by a repeal of their charters, and their liabilities are excepted and reserved by the repealing act, legal service of process to collect those liabilities may be made on any inhabitant of lawful age residing in the territory included in the municipality, provided that there are no legal officers in that territory on whom service can be made. This section extends to school districts in deorganized municipalities so far as applicable. [PL 1987, c. 737, Pt. A, §2 (NEW); PL 1987, c. 737, Pt. C, §106 (NEW); PL 1989, c. 6 (AMD); PL 1989, c. 9, §2 (AMD); PL 1989, c. 104, Pt. C, §§8, 10 (AMD).]

SECTION HISTORY

PL 1987, c. 737, §§A2,C106 (NEW). PL 1989, c. 6 (AMD). PL 1989, c. 9, §2 (AMD). PL 1989, c. 104, §§C8,10 (AMD).

§7304. Power and authority of State Tax Assessor

Whenever the organization of any municipality or plantation has been terminated by Act of the Legislature, the powers, duties and obligations relating to the affairs of that municipality or plantation are vested in the State Tax Assessor for not more than 5 years. The real and personal property of the municipality or plantation shall be held by the State Tax Assessor and used as described in this chapter. [PL 1987, c. 737, Pt. A, §2 (NEW); PL 1987, c. 737, Pt. C, §106 (NEW); PL 1989, c. 6 (AMD); PL 1989, c. 9, §2 (AMD); PL 1989, c. 104, Pt. C, §§8, 10 (AMD).]

1. Powers of State Tax Assessor. The State Tax Assessor may:

A. Subject to the restriction in subparagraph (1), sell or otherwise dispose of any property which the municipality or plantation holds title to at the time of deorganization or may receive title to after deorganization. When disposing of property, the State Tax Assessor shall ensure that the interests of the residents of the unorganized territory are the most important consideration.

(1) In the case of school property, the State Tax Assessor shall consult with the Commissioner of Education; and [PL 1989, c. 6 (AMD); PL 1989, c. 9, §2 (AMD); PL 1989, c. 104, Pt. C, §§8, 10 (AMD); PL 1989, c. 700, Pt. A, §132 (AMD).]

B. Assess taxes any time after the act terminating the organization of the municipality or plantation takes effect by making assessment once a year under the laws relating to the assessment of property taxes in unorganized territory.

(1) The State Tax Assessor may make additional assessments in the same manner against the property owners in the deorganized municipality or plantation to provide funds to pay the debts of the municipality or plantation. [PL 1987, c. 737, Pt. A, §2 (NEW); PL 1987, c. 737, Pt. C, §106 (NEW); PL 1989, c. 6 (AMD); PL 1989, c. 9, §2 (AMD); PL 1989, c. 104, Pt. C, §§8, 10 (AMD).]

[PL 1989, c. 6 (AMD); PL 1989, c. 9, §2 (AMD); PL 1989, c. 104, Pt. C, §§8, 10 (AMD); PL 1989, c. 700, Pt. A, §132 (AMD).]

2. Use of money. All money received under this section shall be applied:

A. To pay the necessary expenses of the State Tax Assessor in making assessments under subsection 1; [PL 1987, c. 737, Pt. A, §2 (NEW); PL 1987, c. 737, Pt. C, §106 (NEW); PL 1989, c. 6 (AMD); PL 1989, c. 9, §2 (AMD); PL 1989, c. 104, Pt. C, §§8, 10 (AMD).]

B. To pay any obligation of the municipality or plantation outstanding at the time its organization is terminated; [PL 1987, c. 737, Pt. A, §2 (NEW); PL 1987, c. 737, Pt. C, §106 (NEW); PL 1989, c. 6 (AMD); PL 1989, c. 9, §2 (AMD); PL 1989, c. 104, Pt. C, §§8, 10 (AMD).]

C. To pay taxes assessed against the municipality or plantation; and [PL 1987, c. 737, Pt. A, §2 (NEW); PL 1987, c. 737, Pt. C, §106 (NEW); PL 1989, c. 6 (AMD); PL 1989, c. 9, §2 (AMD); PL 1989, c. 104, Pt. C, §§8, 10 (AMD).]

D. To complete any public works of the municipality or plantation already begun. [PL 1987, c. 737, Pt. A, §2 (NEW); PL 1987, c. 737, Pt. C, §106 (NEW); PL 1989, c. 6 (AMD); PL 1989, c. 9, §2 (AMD); PL 1989, c. 104, Pt. C, §§8, 10 (AMD).]

[PL 1987, c. 737, Pt. A, §2 (NEW); PL 1987, c. 737, Pt. C, §106 (NEW); PL 1989, c. 6 (AMD); PL 1989, c. 9, §2 (AMD); PL 1989, c. 104, Pt. C, §§8, 10 (AMD).]

3. Surplus funds and property. At the end of the 5-year period, or when in the judgment of the State Tax Assessor final payment of all known accounts against the municipality or plantation has been made, any funds which have not been expended shall be deposited with the county commissioners as undedicated revenue for the unorganized territory fund of that county. Any property of the municipality or plantation which has not been sold shall be held by the State in trust for the unorganized territory or transferred to the county to be held in trust for the unorganized territory. Income from the sale or use of the property shall be used as described in Title 36, section 1604.

[PL 1987, c. 737, Pt. A, §2 (NEW); PL 1987, c. 737, Pt. C, §106 (NEW); PL 1989, c. 6 (AMD); PL 1989, c. 9, §2 (AMD); PL 1989, c. 104, Pt. C, §§8, 10 (AMD).]

SECTION HISTORY

PL 1987, c. 737, §§A2,C106 (NEW). PL 1989, c. 6 (AMD). PL 1989, c. 9, §2 (AMD). PL 1989, c. 104, §§C8,10 (AMD). PL 1989, c. 700, §A132 (AMD).

§7305. Cemetery trust funds

The State Tax Assessor may transfer any cemetery trust funds held by a municipality at the time of deorganization to a cemetery association, provided that association is formed under the laws of the State. If no such association exists, the State Tax Assessor may transfer the funds to the county commissioners. These funds are to be retained for the purpose of allowing the interest only to be used in the same manner and for the same purposes for which the fund was originally accepted by the

deorganized municipality. If the funds are in the care and custody of the county commissioners and a cemetery association is subsequently formed, the county commissioners may transfer the funds to the cemetery association. [PL 1987, c. 737, Pt. A, §2 (NEW); PL 1987, c. 737, Pt. C, §106 (NEW); PL 1989, c. 6 (AMD); PL 1989, c. 9, §2 (AMD); PL 1989, c. 104, Pt. C, §§8, 10 (AMD).]

SECTION HISTORY

PL 1987, c. 737, §§A2,C106 (NEW). PL 1989, c. 6 (AMD). PL 1989, c. 9, §2 (AMD). PL 1989, c. 104, §§C8,10 (AMD).

The State of Maine claims a copyright in its codified statutes. If you intend to republish this material, we require that you include the following disclaimer in your publication:

All copyrights and other rights to statutory text are reserved by the State of Maine. The text included in this publication reflects changes made through the First Special Session of the 132nd Maine Legislature and is current through October 1, 2025. The text is subject to change without notice. It is a version that has not been officially certified by the Secretary of State. Refer to the Maine Revised Statutes Annotated and supplements for certified text.

The Office of the Revisor of Statutes also requests that you send us one copy of any statutory publication you may produce. Our goal is not to restrict publishing activity, but to keep track of who is publishing what, to identify any needless duplication and to preserve the State's copyright rights.

PLEASE NOTE: The Revisor's Office cannot perform research for or provide legal advice or interpretation of Maine law to the public. If you need legal assistance, please contact a qualified attorney.