



125th MAINE LEGISLATURE

FIRST REGULAR SESSION-2011

Legislative Document

No. 533

H.P. 416

House of Representatives, February 15, 2011

An Act To Clarify the Use of Tax Increment Financing Funds for Recreational Development

Reference to the Committee on Taxation suggested and ordered printed pursuant to Joint Rule 218.

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Heather J.R. Priest".

HEATHER J.R. PRIEST
Clerk

Presented by Representative CLARK of Millinocket.
Cosponsored by Senator SAVIELLO of Franklin and
Representatives: CRAY of Palmyra, DAVIS of Sangerville, JOHNSON of Greenville,
KNIGHT of Livermore Falls, LONG of Sherman, THERIAULT of Madawaska, Senators:
GOODALL of Sagadahoc, PATRICK of Oxford.

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

2 **Sec. 1. 30-A MRSA §5225, sub-§1, ¶C**, as amended by PL 2009, c. 314, §11, is
3 further amended to read:

4 C. Costs related to economic development, environmental improvements,
5 recreational trails or employment training within the municipality, including, but not
6 limited to:

7 (1) Costs of funding economic development programs or events developed by
8 the municipality or funding the marketing of the municipality as a business or
9 arts location;

10 (2) Costs of funding environmental improvement projects developed by the
11 municipality for commercial or arts district use or related to such activities;

12 (3) Funding to establish permanent economic development revolving loan funds
13 or investment funds;

14 (4) Costs of services to provide skills development and training for residents of
15 the municipality. These costs may not exceed 20% of the total project costs and
16 must be designated as training funds in the development program;

17 (5) Quality child care costs, including finance costs and construction, staffing,
18 training, certification and accreditation costs related to child care;

19 (6) Costs ~~relating to planning, design, construction, maintenance, grooming and~~
20 ~~improvements to~~ associated with new or existing recreational trails determined by
21 the department to have significant potential to promote economic development,
22 including, but not limited to, costs for multiple projects and project phases that
23 may include planning, design, construction, maintenance, grooming and
24 improvements with respect to new or existing recreational trails, which may
25 include bridges that are part of the trail corridor, used all or in part for all-terrain
26 vehicles, snowmobiles, hiking, bicycling, cross-country skiing or other related
27 multiple uses; and

28 (7) Costs associated with a new or expanded transit service, limited to:

29 (a) Transit service capital costs, including but not limited to: transit vehicles
30 such as buses, ferries, vans, rail conveyances and related equipment; bus
31 shelters and other transit-related structures; and benches, signs and other
32 transit-related infrastructure; and

33 (b) In the case of transit-oriented development districts, ongoing costs of
34 adding to an existing transit system or creating a new transit service and
35 limited strictly to transit operator salaries, transit vehicle fuel and transit
36 vehicle parts replacements; and

37 **SUMMARY**

38 This bill amends the laws regarding municipal development districts to clarify that
39 once the Department of Economic and Community Development has determined that

1 new or existing recreational trails within a municipality have significant potential to
2 promote economic development, the project costs for planning, design, construction,
3 maintenance, grooming and improvements with respect to the trails, which may include
4 bridges that are part of the trail corridor, are authorized for multiple projects or project
5 phases related to the trails.