

**STATE OF MAINE
ONE HUNDRED AND TWENTY-EIGHTH LEGISLATURE
SECOND REGULAR SESSION
SENATE ADVANCED JOURNAL AND CALENDAR**

Wednesday, April 18, 2018

SUPPLEMENT NO. 12

COMMUNICATIONS

(2-1) The Following Communication:

H.C. 504

**STATE OF MAINE
OFFICE OF THE GOVERNOR
1 STATE HOUSE STATION
AUGUSTA, MAINE 04333-0001**

April 13, 2018

The 128th Legislature of the State of Maine
State House
Augusta, Maine

Dear Honorable Members of the 128th Legislature:

Under the authority vested in me by Article IV, Part Third, Section 2 of the Constitution of the State of Maine, I am hereby vetoing LD 1755, "An Act To Provide a Sales Tax Exemption for Nonprofit Heating Assistance Organizations."

I support organizations that help needy Mainers heat their homes in the winter. However, I simply cannot support adding yet another carve-out to Maine's tax laws at a time when the Maine tax laws are complicated enough. At last count, the Maine tax laws already contain 101 exemptions from Maine sales tax.

More troublingly, there are fewer than four organizations in the state that would qualify for the exemption created by this bill. These organizations are estimated to save approximately \$1,000 in sales tax combined under the new exemption. However, it will cost Maine Revenue Services nearly \$50,000 to create and implement the exemption. Said another way: The juice is not worth the squeeze.

For these reasons, I return LD 1755 unsigned and vetoed. I strongly urge the Legislature to sustain it.

Sincerely,

S/Paul R. LePage
Governor

(2-2) The accompanying Bill "An Act To Provide a Sales Tax Exemption for Nonprofit Heating Assistance Organizations"

H.P. 1207 L.D. 1755

Comes from the House with the **VETO OVERRIDDEN**, notwithstanding the objections of the Governor.
