



129th MAINE LEGISLATURE

FIRST REGULAR SESSION-2019

Legislative Document

No. 518

H.P. 375

House of Representatives, January 31, 2019

An Act To Change the Exclusion Amount under the Estate Tax

Reference to the Committee on Taxation suggested and ordered printed.

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "R B. Hunt".

ROBERT B. HUNT
Clerk

Presented by Representative BROOKS of Lewiston.

Cosponsored by Representatives: BERRY of Bowdoinham, EVANGELOS of Friendship,
STANLEY of Medway.

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

2 **Sec. 1. 36 MRSA §4102, sub-§5**, as amended by PL 2017, c. 474, Pt. G, §1, is
3 repealed and the following enacted in its place:

4 **5. Maine exclusion amount.** "Maine exclusion amount" means:

5 A. For estates of decedents dying on or after January 1, 2013 but before January 1,
6 2016, \$2,000,000;

7 B. For estates of decedents dying on or after January 1, 2016 but before January 1,
8 2018, the basic exclusion amount determined for the calendar year in accordance with
9 the Code, Section 2010(c)(3);

10 C. For estates of decedents dying on or after January 1, 2018 but before January 1,
11 2020, \$5,600,000; and

12 D. For estates of decedents dying on or after January 1, 2020, \$1,000,000.

13 **Sec. 2. 36 MRSA §4119**, as enacted by PL 2017, c. 474, Pt. G, §2, is amended to
14 read:

15 **§4119. Annual adjustments for inflation in 2018 and 2019**

16 ~~Beginning in~~ In 2018 and each year thereafter 2019, on or about September 15th, for
17 the estates of decedents who die during the succeeding calendar year, the assessor shall
18 multiply the cost-of-living adjustment by the dollar amount contained in section 4102,
19 subsection 5 applicable to estates of decedents dying on or after January 1, 2018 but
20 before January 1, 2020. For the purposes of this section, the "cost-of-living adjustment" is
21 the Chained Consumer Price Index for the 12-month period ending June 30th of the
22 preceding calendar year divided by the Chained Consumer Price Index for the 12-month
23 period ending June 30, 2017.

24 **SUMMARY**

25 This bill reduces the exclusion amount, below which the Maine estate tax does not
26 apply, to \$1,000,000 from \$5,600,000 for estates of decedents dying on or after January
27 1, 2020 and removes the annual adjustment for inflation of that exclusion amount.