MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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FIRST SPECIAL SESSION

ONE HUNDRED AND SIXTH LEGISLATURE

Legislative Document

No. 2302

S. P. 812 In Senate, January 4, 1974 Referred to Committee on Judiciary. Sent down for concurrence and ordered printed.

HARRY N. STARBRANCH, Secretary Presented by Senator Berry of Cumberland.

STATE OF MAINE

IN THE YEAR OF OUR LORD NINETEEN HUNDRED SEVENTY-FOUR

AN ACT Relating to Costs and Expenses of Investigation and Prosecution of Crimes.

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

R. S., T. 15, § 1902, amended. The first sentence and the 2nd sentence, as amended by section 20 of chapter 567 of the public laws of 1973, of section 1902 of Title 15 of the Revised Statutes, are repealed and replaced as follows:

All fines, forfeitures and costs in criminal cases shall be paid into the treasury of the county where the offense is prosecuted for the use of such county, and all the costs and expenses attending the administration of criminal justice therein shall be paid by said county, unless otherwise specifically provided. The Superior Court shall allow such costs and expenses as specified above, but all other costs and expenses in criminal cases shall be audited by the commissioners of the county where they accrued, including actual expenses incurred by county attorneys in the performance of their official duties, payment of which is expressly provided.

STATEMENT OF FACT

The purpose of this bill is to clarify that the costs and expenses attending the Attorney General's investigation and prosecution of crimes is borne by the county wherein the offense is prosecuted. Since the counties receive the fines, forfeitures and costs in all criminal cases prosecuted therein for the use of such county, they are responsible for the costs and expenses of the investigation and prosecution of such cases.