

STATE OF MAINE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES lloth LEGISLATURE FIRST REGULAR SESSION L.D. 1475 (Filing No. H-446)

COMMITTEE AMENDMENT "A" to H.P. 1251, L.D. 1475, Bill, "AN ACT to Establish the Procedure for Payment for Attorneys' Fees Awards Against the State."

Amend the Bill in that part designated "<u>\$1512.</u>" by striking out all of the first and 2nd paragraphs and inserting in their place the following:

'Notwithstanding Title 5, section 1543 or any other statute, attorneys' fees awarded by a court against the State, its departments, agencies, officers or employees, and settlements of attorneys' fees without court award in these cases, may be paid from any funds available to the State. The Governor may identify by financial order the account fund or other source from which payment of the attorneys' fees award or settlement shall be made.'

Statement of Fact

This amendment authorizes payment of either court-awarded attorneys' fees or settlements of these fees against the State from any funds available to the State. Payment can be made without an appropriation for that purpose, but only after the Governor specifies the account, fund or other source for payment by a financial order.

Reported by the Committee on Judiciary. Reproduced and distributed under the direction of the Clerk of the House.

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