

# MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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L.D. 1766

DATE: 3/11/94

(Filing No. H- 830 )

M I N O R I T Y

LEGAL AFFAIRS

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STATE OF MAINE  
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES  
116TH LEGISLATURE  
SECOND REGULAR SESSION

COMMITTEE AMENDMENT "A" to H.P. 1311, L.D. 1766, Bill, "An Act to Ensure Appropriate and Equitable Penalties for Violation of Electoral Laws"

Amend the bill by inserting before the statement of fact the following:

'Sec. 14. 30-A MRSA §2501, first ¶, as repealed and replaced by PL 1989, c. 104, Pt. D, §2, is amended to read:

Except as otherwise provided by this Title or by charter, the method of voting and, the conduct of a municipal election and violations of the municipal election laws are governed by Title 21-A.

FISCAL NOTE

This bill amends the penalty for certain violations of the voting laws, including a change from a Class D crime to a Class E crime and changes of 3 Class C crimes to Class D crimes. The reclassification of Class C crimes to Class D crimes will shift costs from state correctional institutions to the county jail system. The reclassification of the Class D crime to a Class E crime will result in savings to the county jail system.

The Judicial Department may realize some minor savings from reductions of workload and administrative costs including indigent defense costs associated with the reclassification of these crimes. Reductions in the collection of fines may decrease General Fund revenue by minor amounts.'

COMMITTEE AMENDMENT

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**STATEMENT OF FACT**

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The amendment clarifies that unless otherwise specified, the penalties established in the Maine Revised Statutes, Title 21-A for violations of the election laws also apply to violations of the municipal election laws in Title 30-A.

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