

# MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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# 122nd MAINE LEGISLATURE

## FIRST REGULAR SESSION-2005

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Legislative Document

No. 1409

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H.P. 973

House of Representatives, March 22, 2005

### **An Act To Assist in the Investigation and Prosecution of Theft Offenses**

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Reference to the Committee on State and Local Government suggested and ordered printed.

*Millicent M. MacFarland*  
MILLICENT M. MacFARLAND  
Clerk

Presented by Representative ROSEN of Bucksport.  
Cosponsored by Senator SNOWE-MELLO of Androscoggin and  
Representatives: BOWLES of Sanford, CROSTHWAITE of Ellsworth, CURLEY of  
Scarborough, DAVIS of Augusta, DUCHESNE of Hudson, SCHATZ of Blue Hill, TARDY of  
Newport, Senator: COWGER of Kennebec.

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

4 **Sec. 1. 30-A MRSA §2671, sub-§2-B,** as enacted by PL 1993, c.  
594, §2, is amended to read:

6 **2-B. Liability.** When a municipal police officer makes an  
7 arrest, as authorized in subsection 2-A or subsection 4, outside  
8 of jurisdictional limits of the municipality in which the police  
9 officer is appointed, that police officer has the same immunity  
10 from tort liability and all of the pension, relief, disability,  
11 ~~worker's~~ workers' compensation, insurance and any other benefits  
12 the police officer enjoys while performing duties within the  
13 police officer's appointing municipality.

14 **Sec. 2. 30-A MRSA §2671, sub-§4** is enacted to read:

16 **4. Multijurisdictional thefts.** If there is probable cause  
17 to believe that more than one theft committed pursuant to one  
18 scheme or course of conduct by the same or several persons has  
19 occurred in more than one municipal jurisdiction, a police  
20 officer in a municipality in which at least one of the thefts was  
21 committed may investigate and assist in the prosecution of all  
22 the related thefts.

24  
25  
26 **SUMMARY**

28 This bill permits local law enforcement agencies to  
29 consolidate theft investigations in multiple jurisdictions in  
30 order to simplify the investigative aspects of theft crimes, to  
31 conserve limited economic and time resources of the agencies and  
32 to strengthen the deterrent effect of successful investigations  
and prosecutions of theft crimes.