

MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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129th MAINE LEGISLATURE

FIRST REGULAR SESSION-2019

Legislative Document

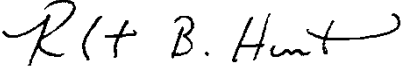
No. 800

H.P. 588

House of Representatives, February 12, 2019

An Act To Require Recording of Interviews of Suspects

Reference to the Committee on Criminal Justice and Public Safety suggested and ordered printed.


ROBERT B. HUNT
Clerk

Presented by Representative WARREN of Hallowell.
Cosponsored by Representatives: BEEBE-CENTER of Rockland, COREY of Windham,
EVANGELOS of Friendship, TALBOT ROSS of Portland, Senator: CARPENTER of
Aroostook.

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

2 **Sec. 1. 15 MRSA §458** is enacted to read:

3 **§458. Recording of suspect interviews**

4 Any questioning of a person by a law enforcement officer as defined in Title 17-A,
5 section 2, subsection 17 who is in custody or otherwise deprived of freedom of action in
6 any significant way must be recorded upon a sound recording device whenever feasible
7 and in any case where questioning occurs at a place of detention.

8 **SUMMARY**

9 Current law requires that law enforcement agencies only adopt written policies for
10 the recording of interviews of suspects of serious crimes. This bill requires law
11 enforcement officers to record interviews of suspects in custody or otherwise deprived of
12 freedom of action in any significant way whenever feasible and always where questioning
13 occurs at a place of detention.