

MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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129th MAINE LEGISLATURE

FIRST REGULAR SESSION-2019

Legislative Document

No. 846

H.P. 620

House of Representatives, February 14, 2019

**Resolve, To Provide for the Sealing of Records of Convictions for
Marijuana-related Violations That Are No Longer Crimes**

Reference to the Committee on Judiciary suggested and ordered printed.

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "R B. Hunt".

ROBERT B. HUNT
Clerk

Presented by Representative TALBOT ROSS of Portland.
Cosponsored by Representative FARNSWORTH of Portland, President JACKSON of
Aroostook and Representatives: EVANGELOS of Friendship, HICKMAN of Winthrop,
NEWELL of the Passamaquoddy Tribe, O'NEIL of Saco, PLUECKER of Warren, WARREN
of Hallowell, Senator: BELLOWS of Kennebec.

1 **Sec. 1. Department of Public Safety; sealing of marijuana conviction**
2 **records. Resolved:** That, notwithstanding any provision of law to the contrary and no
3 later than January 15, 2021, the Department of Public Safety, Bureau of State Police,
4 State Bureau of Identification shall ensure that all criminal conviction records in the
5 possession of the department that relate to an eligible marijuana conviction are made
6 confidential. The dissemination of such records by the department is prohibited.

7 1. For the purposes of this section, "eligible marijuana conviction" means a
8 conviction for a current or former crime that consisted of conduct that is authorized under
9 the Maine Revised Statutes, Title 28-B, chapter 3.

10 2. No later than January 15, 2020, the Department of Public Safety shall submit to
11 the joint standing committees of the Legislature having jurisdiction over adult use
12 marijuana matters, criminal justice and public safety matters and judicial matters a report
13 regarding the progress made by the department in meeting the requirements of this
14 section. The report must include any proposed legislation necessary for the department to
15 meet the requirements of this section by January 15, 2021. After reviewing the report, the
16 joint standing committee of the Legislature having jurisdiction over adult use marijuana
17 matters may report out legislation relating to the report to the First Regular Session of the
18 130th Legislature. The joint standing committees of the Legislature having jurisdiction
19 over criminal justice and public safety matters and judicial matters may make
20 recommendations to the joint standing committee of the Legislature having jurisdiction
21 over adult use marijuana matters regarding that legislation.

22 **SUMMARY**

23 This resolve requires the Department of Public Safety, Bureau of State Police, State
24 Bureau of Identification to ensure that all criminal conviction records in the possession of
25 the department that relate to the conviction for an offense involving marijuana that is no
26 longer illegal are made confidential and prohibits the dissemination of such records. The
27 department is required to submit a report to the 130th Legislature regarding the progress
28 of the department in meeting the requirements of this legislation.