

MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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132nd MAINE LEGISLATURE

FIRST REGULAR SESSION-2025

Legislative Document

No. 20

S.P. 33

In Senate, January 8, 2025

**An Act Regarding the First Judicial District and the District Court
Locations in the Judicial Divisions of Androscoggin and Western
Aroostook**

Submitted by the Judicial Department pursuant to Joint Rule 204.

Received by the Secretary of the Senate on January 6, 2025. Referred to the Committee on
Judiciary pursuant to Joint Rule 308.2 and ordered printed.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'D M Grant'.

DAREK M. GRANT
Secretary of the Senate

Presented by Senator CARNEY of Cumberland.

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

2 **Sec. 1. 4 MRSA §153, sub-§2**, as amended by PL 2003, c. 673, Pt. JJJ, §3, is further
3 amended to read:

4 **2. Androscoggin.** Androscoggin consists of all municipalities in Androscoggin
5 County. The District Court for Androscoggin must be held at Lewiston ~~or Auburn, exact~~
6 ~~site to be determined by the Chief Judge.~~

7 **Sec. 2. 4 MRSA §153, sub-§3**, as amended by PL 1995, c. 330, §1, is further
8 amended to read:

9 **3. Western Aroostook.** Western Aroostook consists of the municipalities and
10 unorganized territory known as Hamlin ~~Plt. Plantation~~, Cyr ~~Plt. Plantation~~, T17 R3, T17
11 R4, T16 R5, T15 R6, Winterville ~~Plt. Plantation~~, T15 R8, T15 R9, T14 R10, T14 R11, T14
12 R12, T14 R13, T14 R14, T14 R15, T14 R16; and all municipalities and unorganized
13 territory in Aroostook County lying to the west and north of these. The District Court for
14 Western Aroostook must be held at ~~Madawaska and Fort Kent. The Chief Judge shall~~
15 ~~determine the level of service at each location.~~

16 **Sec. 3. 4 MRSA §154, sub-§1**, as amended by PL 1965, c. 228, §2, is further
17 amended to read:

18 **1. First District.** The first district consists of the divisions of Eastern Aroostook
19 (Caribou) and Western Aroostook (~~Madawaska, Fort Kent and Van Buren~~).

20 **Sec. 4. 4 MRSA §154, sub-§8**, as amended by PL 2003, c. 673, Pt. JJJ, §4, is further
21 amended to read:

22 **8. Eighth District.** The 8th district consists of the ~~divisions~~ division of Androscoggin
23 (Lewiston).

24 **SUMMARY**

25 This bill amends the statute establishing judicial divisions to require that the District
26 Court for Androscoggin be located in Lewiston and the District Court for Western
27 Aroostook be located in Fort Kent and corrects a clerical error.

28 The bill also amends the statute establishing judicial districts to provide that the first
29 district consists of the divisions of Eastern Aroostook located in Caribou and Western
30 Aroostook located in Fort Kent.