

# MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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CHAPTER 403  
JURISDICTION

Sec.

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**§ 2551. District Court as juvenile court**

The District Court shall have exclusive, original jurisdiction over all juveniles in relation to acts and offenses within the scope of chapters 401 to 409 committed within the respective territorial jurisdictions of said court by such juveniles. When so exercising said jurisdiction, the District Court shall be known as the juvenile court.

1959, c. 342, § 1; 1963, c. 402, § 259.

**§ 2552. Offenses and acts**

The exclusive, original jurisdiction of juvenile courts shall include all offenses committed by juveniles and the following conduct of juveniles: Habitual truancy; behaving in an incorrigible or indecent and lascivious manner; knowingly and willfully associating with vicious, criminal or grossly immoral people; repeatedly deserting one's home without just cause; living in circumstances of manifest danger of falling into habits of vice or immorality.

Juvenile courts shall have no jurisdiction over offenses in which any juvenile is charged with the violation of any provision of Title 29 or over any other traffic law or ordinance, if such offense is a misdemeanor, except that juvenile courts shall have exclusive, original jurisdiction over offenses in which any juvenile is charged with a violation of Title 29, sections 900, 1312, 1315 and 1316.

1959, c. 342, § 1; c. 377; 1963, c. 115.

**§ 2553. Uniform compact petition**

Juvenile courts shall have jurisdiction over all petitions, brought under the Uniform State Compact on Juveniles, Title 34, chapter 9, pertaining to juveniles as defined in section 2502, who

**15 § 2553** COURT PROCEDURE—CRIMINAL Title 15

have been adjudged delinquent in other states, but who are found within the territorial jurisdiction of Maine, provided that the offense or act involved is of such nature that had it been committed originally in Maine it would have fallen within the jurisdiction of Maine juvenile courts.

1959, c. 342, § 1.

**§ 2554. Superior Court; juveniles before it on grand jury indictment**

In cases involving juveniles which come before the Superior Court as a result of the juvenile's being bound over by the juvenile court for grand jury action, the Superior Court shall have jurisdiction not only of the offense for which the juvenile has been bound over but of any offense of lesser degree contained in the original offense, and shall function in the same manner and with the same powers and duties as in criminal proceedings in the Superior Court.

1959, c. 342, § 1.