

# MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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No

September 17, 1951

To Francis H. Sleeper, M. D., Superintendent, Augusta State Hospital  
Re: Jurisdiction for Transfer

In your letter of September 10, 1951 you refer to a case transferred to your institution under order of the Commissioner of Institutional Service from the Reformatory for Men, and ask if we will transmit to you a ruling with regard to the jurisdiction of the Probate Court for Kennebec County relative to this case.

Please be advised that the Probate Court can decide its own jurisdictional questions, and undoubtedly was right when it said that it could not take jurisdiction when the inmate's residence was South Portland in the County of Cumberland.

Our opinions are advisory to the Governor and Council, the legislature, and the heads of departments and institutions, and we may not interfere with the court's determinations as to its jurisdiction.

James G. Frost  
Assistant Attorney General

jgf/c