

MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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September 16, 1952

To Honorable Frederick G. Payne, Governor of Maine
Re: Proposed General Compact Consent Act

Attached hereto is a Proposed General Compact Consent Act, which was sent to you by the Council of State Governments for your comments. I am giving you my reaction to such an Act, not from the result of any legal research, but just as personal comments.

I am in favor of such legislation. Cooperation by and between States is becoming more important as the Federal Government becomes more centralized. It amounts to an additional check and balance, not hitherto considered. Compacts between States, such as the Civil Defense Compact and other compacts or agreements for criminal law enforcement and joint institutions, bring the States together and make each of them realize that coordinated efforts by the States may bring more beneficial results than the efforts of one State. A State having one or more compacts with another State has a right to expect, and will get, cooperation from that State. Witness the cooperation of the States in the Tidelands dispute, also the monopoly liquor States in their unprecedented action against OPS.

For this reason I believe that such a General Compact Consent Act would cause the States to be more susceptible to cooperation.

J. Glynn Frost
Deputy Attorney General

jgf/c