

MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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September 14, 1954

To Samuel H. Slosberg, Director of Legislative Research
Re: Engrossed Bill

Relative to an old discussion regarding the difference between the wording of a printed act as shown in the Private and Special Laws and the wording of the engrossed bill, I happened across the case which I believe I had in mind, which is Bowen v. City of Portland, 119 Me. 282, which quotes as follows (Dunn, J., at page 285):

"In point of fact it may be stated, though not specifically related to the question this case involves, that the engrossed bill in the office of the Secretary of State shows original text of the law to be that vacancies shall be filled 'for' and not 'from' an unexpired term."

This intimates to me, although they have no discussion, that they will look behind the law as it appears in our printed volumes which all our attorneys and public officers use, if at any time there is a discrepancy and the discrepancy becomes material to the issue at hand.

Roger A. Putnam
Assistant Attorney General

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