

MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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ONE HUNDRED AND FIRST LEGISLATURE

Legislative Document

No. 1256

H. P. 869 House of Representatives, February 12, 1963
Referred to Committee on Judiciary. Sent up for concurrence and ordered printed.

HARVEY R. PEASE, Clerk

Presented by Mr. Edwards of Raymond.

STATE OF MAINE

IN THE YEAR OF OUR LORD NINETEEN HUNDRED
SIXTY-THREE

AN ACT to Create the Office of Public Defender.

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

R. S., c. 89, §§ III-A - III-F, additional. Chapter 89 of the Revised Statutes is amended by adding 6 new sections, III-A to III-F, to read as follows:

Public Defender

Sec. III-A. Office created. The county commissioners of any county may establish the office of public defender for the county. Any county may join with one or more counties to establish and maintain the office of public defender to serve such county.

Sec. III-B. Appointment. After the office of public defender is established the Governor, with the advice and consent of the Council, shall appoint a member of the bar in said county or counties who has been admitted to practice law for at least 2 years to fill the office of public defender.

Sec. III-C. Duty. It shall be the duty of the public defender to represent and act as attorney for indigent defendants in those claims cases referred to him by the Superior Courts.

Sec. III-D. Office; expenses. In each county the county commissioners shall provide suitable rooms for the use of the public defender and office furniture and supplies with which to properly conduct the business of his office. Such expenses are a charge upon the county or counties in which the public defender is employed.

Sec. III-E. Printing briefs. The expense of printing the briefs on appeal on behalf of a defendant represented by a public defender is a county charge.

Sec. III-F. Salary. The annual salary of each public defender shall be such as may be fixed by the county or counties.'