

MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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(EMERGENCY)

ONE HUNDRED AND THIRD LEGISLATURE

Legislative Document

No. 562

S. P. 237

In Senate, February 2, 1967

Referred to Committee on State Government. Sent down for concurrence and ordered printed.

JERROLD B. SPEERS, Secretary

Presented by Senator Albair of Aroostook.

STATE OF MAINE

IN THE YEAR OF OUR LORD NINETEEN HUNDRED
SIXTY-SEVEN

**AN ACT to Create a Criminal Division Within the Office of the Attorney
General.**

Emergency preamble. Whereas, Acts and resolves do not become effective until 90 days after adjournment unless enacted as emergencies ; and

Whereas, the criminal workload in the Attorney General's office has increased to the point where the personnel in the office is inadequate to cope with the many resulting problems ; and

Whereas, there has been a marked increase in homicides in the State during the past year ; and

Whereas, because of the absence of a coordinating agency over criminal law enforcement, the following legislation is vitally necessary for the State to cope with the increase and complexity of criminal enforcement ; and

Whereas, in the judgment of the Legislature, these facts create an emergency within the meaning of the Constitution of Maine and require the following legislation as immediately necessary for the preservation of the public peace, health and safety ; now, therefore,

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

Sec. 1. R. S., T. 5, § 200-A, additional. Title 5 of the Revised Statutes is amended by adding a new section 200-A, to read as follows:

§ 200-A. Criminal division

The Attorney General is authorized to create a Criminal Division within the Department of the Attorney General in order to coordinate all criminal investiga-

tion and prosecution for the purpose of improving law enforcement within the State of Maine.

The Attorney General shall have full responsibility for the direction and control of all investigation and prosecution of homicides and such other major crimes as the Attorney General may deem necessary for the peace and good order of the State of Maine.

Sec. 2. Appropriation. There is appropriated from the General Fund the sum of \$26,788 for the fiscal year ending June 30, 1968 and the sum of \$24,000 for the fiscal year ending June 30, 1969 to the Department of the Attorney General to be expended in the promotion or carrying out of the objectives of this Act.

The breakdown shall be as follows :

	1967-68		1968-69
DEPARTMENT OF ATTORNEY GENERAL			
Personal Services	(4) \$21,788		(4) \$22,300
All Other	1,500		1,500
Capital Expenditures	3,500		200
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	\$26,788		\$24,000

Emergency clause. In view of the emergency cited in the preamble, this Act shall take effect when approved.