

MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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(EMERGENCY)
SECOND SPECIAL SESSION

ONE HUNDRED AND THIRD LEGISLATURE

Legislative Document

No. 1836

H. P. 1307

House of Representatives, January 9, 1968

Referred to Committee on Judiciary. Sent up for concurrence and ordered printed.

BERTHA W. JOHNSON, Clerk

Presented by Mr. Brennan of Portland.

STATE OF MAINE

IN THE YEAR OF OUR LORD NINETEEN HUNDRED
SIXTY-EIGHT

**AN ACT Establishing the Maine Planning Committee on Criminal Law
Administration.**

Emergency preamble. Whereas, the President of the United States' Commission on Law Enforcement and Administration of Justice urges "in every State and every city, an agency, or one or more officials, should be specifically responsible for planning improvements in crime prevention and control and encouraging their implementation"; and

Whereas, the U. S. Department of Justice has made grants of up to \$25,000 to several states in order to further this activity and stands ready to do so for Maine; and

Whereas, several studies are necessary in the immediate future, it is desirable to maintain continuity with the Governor's Planning Committee on Criminal Administration which will be replaced by this permanent body; 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. 15, c. 18, additional. Title 15 of the Revised Statutes is amended by adding a new chapter 18, to read as follows:

CHAPTER 18

MAINE PLANNING COMMITTEE ON CRIMINAL LAW
ADMINISTRATION

§ 501. Establishment and designation

In recognition that crime is one of the major social problems of the day, that coordinated planning and study is necessary to make more effective the work of the law enforcement agencies of this State, to improve the administration of justice and to treat more effectively those convicted of violating the law, and that public understanding of the problems and responsibilities of law officers and law enforcement agencies should be encouraged, a planning committee, as heretofore created, is established and shall be known as the Maine Planning Committee on Criminal Law Administration.

§ 502. Officers and members

The committee shall consist of 19 members. The following shall be members of the committee: The Attorney General, the Chief of the State Police, the Senate and House chairman of the Joint Standing Committee on Judiciary of the Legislature and the Director of the Division of Probation and Parole. The remaining 14 members of the committee shall be appointed by the Governor from among citizens and public officials who have an interest in law enforcement, judicial administration and corrections. The membership shall include: Two other members of the Joint Standing Committee on Judiciary of the Legislature, a sheriff, a chief of a municipal police department, the head of a correctional institution in the State of Maine and a representative of the Federal Bureau of Investigation. The members of the committee appointed by the Governor shall serve for a term of 2 years. In addition, the Governor shall appoint from the membership of the committee a chairman, and the committee shall elect a vice-chairman, said officers to assume the duties customary to their offices. The terms of the chairman and vice-chairman shall be for 2 years.

§ 503. Powers and duties

The committee shall have the following powers and duties:

1. Law enforcement more effective. To study and recommend methods by which law enforcement can be made more effective and justice administered more efficiently and thoroughly;
2. Organization and jurisdiction. To study the organization of law enforcement and the jurisdiction of the various law enforcement agencies in the State of Maine and make recommendations with regard thereto, such studies may include but shall not be limited to creation of a full-time prosecuting attorney system;
3. Recruitment and training. To recommend improvements in the recruitment and training of law enforcement officers and other law enforcement personnel;
4. Cooperation. To recommend methods by which cooperation between local, state and federal law enforcement officials may be furthered;

5. **Proposals.** To evaluate proposals for improvement, prevention, detection and prosecution of crimes and treatment of offenders which may be submitted by federal agencies;

6. **Advise Governor.** To advise the Governor and Legislature as to the needs of the system of criminal law administration in the State of Maine and priorities to be assigned in meeting those needs;

7. **Contracts.** To contract with private or public agencies to provide consultant services to the committee;

8. **Criminal law administration.** To continually evaluate the operation of the entire system of criminal law administration in the State of Maine including the law enforcement agencies, the courts and the correctional institutions;

9. **Report.** To make a written report annually to the Governor on the work of the committee, such report to be submitted no later than December 1st of each calendar year.

§ 504. Meetings

The full committee shall meet at least quarterly. In addition, the chairman may call special meetings of the committee at his discretion. Members of the committee and its officers shall serve without salary.

§ 505. Executive director

The Governor shall appoint a person nominated by the committee to be executive director and shall fix his salary.

Sec. 2. Appropriation. There is appropriated from the Unappropriated Surplus of the General Fund the sum of \$2,000 for the fiscal year ending June 30, 1968 and the sum of \$14,000 for the fiscal year ending June 30, 1969, to the Maine Planning Committee on Criminal Law Administration, to carry out the purpose of this Act. The breakdown shall be as follows:

MAINE PLANNING COMMITTEE ON CRIMINAL LAW ADMINISTRATION

	1967-68		1968-69
Personal Services		(2)	\$ 9,000
All Other	\$2,000		4,000
Capital Expenditures			1,000
	\$ 2,000		\$14,000

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