

MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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ONE HUNDRED AND SIXTH LEGISLATURE

Legislative Document

No. 649

H. P. 495

House of Representatives, February 6, 1973

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

E. LOUISE LINCOLN, Clerk

Presented by Mr. Carey of Waterville.

STATE OF MAINE

IN THE YEAR OF OUR LORD NINETEEN HUNDRED
SEVENTY-THREE

**AN ACT to Impose a Surcharge on Fines and Penalties for Operation of
the Maine Law Enforcement and Criminal Justice Academy.**

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

R. S., T. 25, § 2803, amended. Section 2803 of Title 25 of the Revised Statutes, as enacted by section 1 of chapter 491 of the public laws of 1969 and as last repealed and replaced by section 12 of chapter 592 of the public laws of 1971, is amended by adding a new paragraph to read as follows:

Whenever a court imposes a fine or orders a bail forfeiture as a penalty for violation of a law of the State of Maine or an ordinance of a political subdivision of the State of Maine, except an ordinance relating to illegal parking, an assessment, in addition to said fine or forfeiture, shall be collected. Said assessment shall be forwarded within 30 days of receipt to the Treasurer of State. The Treasurer of State shall credit the assessment to the account of the Department of Public Safety to be expended solely for the operational costs of the Maine Law Enforcement and Criminal Justice Academy. The amount of said assessment shall be 10% of the amount of the fine or forfeiture. If a bail forfeiture is returned, the assessment thereon shall also be returned.

STATEMENT OF FACT

The purpose of this bill is to raise the operating costs of the Maine Law Enforcement and Criminal Justice Academy. The academy currently operates primarily on federal funds, the future receipt of which cannot be guaranteed. It is estimated that the level of assessments collected will obviate the need

for General Fund appropriations to operate the academy. This plan is in effect in other states and, stated simply, is having the offender pay to train the policeman who enforces the laws the offender has broken. The assessment on a \$25 fine, for instance, would be \$2.50.