

MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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ONE HUNDRED AND SIXTH LEGISLATURE

Legislative Document

No. 1292

H. P. 978

House of Representatives, March 6, 1973

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

E. LOUISE LINCOLN, Clerk

Presented by Mr. Trask of Milo.

STATE OF MAINE

IN THE YEAR OF OUR LORD NINETEEN HUNDRED
SEVENTY-THREE

AN ACT Relating to Shoplifting.

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

R. S., T. 17, § 3501, amended. Section 3501 of Title 17 of the Revised Statutes is amended by adding a new paragraph at the end to read as follows:

Any merchant, his agent or employee, who has reasonable grounds to believe that a person is willfully concealing goods or merchandise of any store while still upon the premises of such store, may detain such person in a reasonable manner and only so long as is necessary to summon a law officer.

STATEMENT OF FACT

The purpose of this legislation is to provide the businessman with a more effective means of protecting his property from theft by providing the property owner with a reasonable right to detain a person suspected of theft until a law officer can be summoned, a right given property owners by statute in a number of states.