

# MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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STATE OF MAINE  
SENATE  
107TH LEGISLATURE

SENATE AMENDMENT "A" to COMMITTEE AMENDMENT "A" to S.P. 16, L.D. 90, Bill, "AN ACT to Provide for 6-person Juries in Civil Cases."

Amend said amendment by striking out everything after the first paragraph and inserting in place thereof the following:

Further amend said Bill by inserting in the last line before the Statement of Fact (same in L.D.) before the underlined figure "6" the following underlined words: 'not less than'

Further amend said Bill by inserting in the last line before the Statement of Fact after the word "jurors" the following underlined words and punctuation: '; provided, however, that the parties to a civil suit may stipulate that the jury may consist of any number less than 6 jurors'

Further amend said Bill by inserting at the end before the Statement of Fact the following:

'Sec. 2. 14 MRSA §1354, as amended by PL 1971, c. 581, §2, is repealed and the following enacted in place thereof:

§ 1354. Less than unanimous verdict or finding

In the trial of all civil suits in the Superior Court of this State, a number of jurors equal to at least 3/4 of the total number of jurors serving on a jury may agree on a verdict or finding and return it into court as the verdict

or finding of that jury and the trial judge shall so instruct the jury; provided, however, that the parties to a civil suit may stipulate that a verdict or finding of a stated majority of the jurors shall be taken as the verdict or finding of the jury.'

Statement of Fact

The purposes of this amendment are to provide that the Supreme Judicial Court may provide by rule for juries in civil cases of at least 6 jurors and to also provide that in the trial of a civil case a number of jurors equal to at least 3/4 of the total number of jurors on a jury may agree on and return a verdict or finding as the verdict or finding of that jury. This amendment also provides for, when agreed to by the parties to a civil action, juries of less than 6 jurors and the taking of verdicts or findings of a stated majority of jurors as the verdict or finding of a jury.

(Collins)

Name:

*Samuel W. Collins Jr.*

County: Knox

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