

MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

The following document is provided by the
LAW AND LEGISLATIVE DIGITAL LIBRARY
at the Maine State Law and Legislative Reference Library
<http://legislature.maine.gov/lawlib>



Reproduced from scanned originals with text recognition applied
(searchable text may contain some errors and/or omissions)

(EMERGENCY)

ONE HUNDRED AND SEVENTH LEGISLATURE

Legislative Document

No. 444

S. P. 141

In Senate, January 30, 1975

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

HARRY N. STARBRANCH, Secretary

Presented by Senator Speers of Kennebec.

Cosponsors: Senator Collins of Knox; Senator Conley of Cumberland.

STATE OF MAINE

IN THE YEAR OF OUR LORD NINETEEN HUNDRED
SEVENTY-FIVE

**AN ACT to Create a Law Enforcement Education Section within the
Criminal Division of the Department 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 business of continuing education for judges, prosecutors, law enforcement officers and other criminal justice personnel is of vital importance to the effective operation of the criminal justice system in Maine; and

Whereas, the Law Enforcement Education Section in the Criminal Division of the Department of the Attorney General is presently providing continuing education for over 3,800 law enforcement related personnel in Maine; and

Whereas, the suspension of these educational services would seriously affect the administration of criminal justice; 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. 5 MRSA, § 200-C, is enacted to read:

§ 200-C. Law Enforcement Education Section

There is created a Law Enforcement Education Section within the Criminal Division of the Department of the Attorney General in order to provide and coordinate continuing educational and other related legal services for judges, prosecutors, law enforcement officers and other criminal justice personnel in the State.

Sec. 2. Appropriation. There is appropriated from the General Fund to the Department of the Attorney General the sum of \$192,701 to carry out the purposes of this Act. The breakdown shall be as follows:

	1975-76	1976-77
ATTORNEY GENERAL, DEPARTMENT OF THE		
Personal Services	(4) \$62,720	(4) \$65,910
All Other	34,315	28,824
Capital Expenditures	93 ²	—
	<hr/> \$97,967	<hr/> \$94,734

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

STATEMENT OF FACT

In 1970, the Law Enforcement Education Section was established in the Criminal Division of the Department of the Attorney General to provide vitally needed continuing education to Maine's criminal justice community. The Law Enforcement Education Section is the only source of continuing education for most of Maine's 3,500 plus law enforcement personnel. Among the services performed by the section are: (1) the distribution of a nationally recognized monthly publication for law enforcement officers, entitled "ALERT," and the distribution and updating of a 500-page LAW ENFORCEMENT OFFICER'S MANUAL to assist every state, county and local law enforcement officer in the State of Maine in carrying out his or her daily duties; (2) the distribution, to every Maine judge, District Attorney and Assistant District Attorney, of a series of publications entitled THE MAINE PROSECUTOR, which includes a monthly BULLETIN reviewing recent developments in criminal law and procedure and periodic reference MANUALS; (3) the organization and conduct of training seminars for criminal justice personnel; and (4) the maintenance of a criminal research information bank and a library for all criminal justice personnel in Maine.

Since its inception, the Law Enforcement Education Section has been funded by a grant from the Maine Law Enforcement Planning and Assistance Agency. The section will not be eligible for federal funding after April 1975, and the services performed by it will terminate unless state funds are provided.