

MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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(EMERGENCY)

ONE HUNDRED AND SEVENTH LEGISLATURE

Legislative Document

No. 510

S. P. 147

In Senate, February 4, 1975

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

HARRY N. STARBRANCH, Secretary

Presented by Senator Huber of Cumberland.

STATE OF MAINE

IN THE YEAR OF OUR LORD NINETEEN HUNDRED
SEVENTY-FIVE

**AN ACT Increasing the Number of Associate Justices of the Supreme
Judicial Court.**

Emergency preamble. Whereas, Acts of the Legislature do not become effective until 90 days after adjournment unless enacted as emergencies; and

Whereas, the increasingly heavy caseload of the Supreme Judicial Court involves important questions of great complexity; and

Whereas, justice demands a swift disposition of these questions after their careful resolution; and

Whereas, it is imperative that the overburdened 6 justices now sitting on the Supreme Judicial Court be aided in this resolution by the appointment of an additional 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. 4 MRSA, § 1, first ¶, is amended to read:

The Supreme Judicial Court, as heretofore established, shall consist of a Chief Justice and ~~5~~ 6 associate justices and such Active Retired Justices as may be appointed and serving on said court, learned in the law and of sobriety of manners.

Sec. 2. Appropriation. There is appropriated from the General Fund to the Supreme Judicial Court the sum of \$99,324 to carry out the purposes of this Act. The breakdown shall be as follows:

	1975-76	1976-77
SUPREME JUDICIAL COURT		
Personal Services	(3) \$48,356	(3) \$48,356
All Other	1,306	1,306
	<hr/> \$49,662	<hr/> \$49,662

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

STATEMENT OF FACT

The purpose of this bill is reflected in the emergency preamble.