

MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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STATE OF MAINE
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
107TH LEGISLATURE

(Filing No. H-778)

COMMITTEE AMENDMENT "A" to H.P. 769, L.D. 940, Bill,
"AN ACT Relating to the Disposal of Certain Personal Property
by Law Enforcement Agencies."

Amend said Bill in that part designated "§3502." by adding
at the end the following:

'If the owner of such property or any other person entitled to
possession thereof has not been identified within 30 days from
the initial date of custody of such property by a law enforcement
agency, the principal official of such agency shall cause to be
published, at least once in a newspaper of general circulation in
the county wherein such official has authority or in the state
paper in the case of a state law enforcement agency, a notice of
his agency's possession of such property and its inability to
ascertain the owner thereof. Such notice shall also contain a
brief description of the property and a statement to the effect
that, if the owner of such property or any other person entitled
to possession thereof has not claimed such property within 5 months
of the date of such published notice, such property will either
be surrendered to the person who found it, if any, or be sold to
the highest bidder at public auction.'

Further amend said Bill by inserting after the underlined
word "period" in the 6th line of that part designated "§3503."
the following: 'and the finder of such property, if any, has
not claimed it pursuant to the provisions of section 3507 within
15 days after the expiration of said 6-month period'

Further amend said Bill by striking out all of that part
designated "§3507." and inserting in place thereof the following:
'§ 3507. Property returned to finder

Any person may surrender property which he has found to a
law enforcement agency. Such person shall be entitled to have
such property surrendered to him if the owner thereof or other

person entitled to possession thereof has not properly claimed the property within 6 months of its surrender to the law enforcement agency, provided such person who so surrendered the property reimburses the law enforcement agency and others authorized for reasonable expenses incurred in its custody of such property.'

Statement of Fact

The purposes of this amendment are clarification and to provide for an additional public notice which shall be given if the identity of the owner of lost, stolen or abandoned property has not been ascertained within 30 days from the initial date a law enforcement agency acquires custody of such property.

Reported by the Committee on Judiciary.

Reproduced and distributed under the direction of the Clerk of the House.
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