

MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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ONE HUNDRED AND SEVENTH LEGISLATURE

Legislative Document

No. 1161

S. P. 356

In Senate, March 20, 1975

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

HARRY N. STARBRANCH, Secretary

Presented by Senator Johnston of Aroostook.

Cosponsors: Senator Clifford of Androscoggin.

STATE OF MAINE

IN THE YEAR OF OUR LORD NINETEEN HUNDRED
SEVENTY-FIVE

**AN ACT Appointing Three Additional at Large District Judges and
Requiring them to be Residents of the Northern Part of the State.**

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

Sec. 1. 4 MRSA § 157, first sentence, as last repealed and replaced by PL 1973, c. 788, § 5, is amended to read:

The Governor, with the advice and consent of the Council, shall appoint to the District ~~5~~ 8 judges at large and 15 judges.

Sec. 2. 4 MRSA § 157, as last amended by PL 1973, c. 788, § 6, is further amended by inserting after the 3rd sentence the following:

Of the judges at large, at least 3 shall reside in an area composed of the Counties of Aroostook, Hancock, Knox, Penobscot, Piscataquis and Washington.

Sec. 3. Appropriation. There is appropriated from the General Fund to the District Court the sum of \$133,875 to carry out the purposes of this Act. The breakdown shall be as follows:

	1975-76	1976-77
DISTRICT COURT		
Personal Services	(3) \$51,750	(3) \$69,000
All Other	5,625	7,500
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	\$57,375	\$76,500

STATEMENT OF FACT

At present, all of the judges at large are residents of the southern part of the State, even though they cover the northern part as well. This bill authorizes 3 more at large judges who will be residents of the northern part of the State and who will be more familiar with the areas in which they hold court and who will have to travel shorter distances in order to carry out their duties.