MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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STATE OF MAINE SENATE 107TH LEGISLATURE

CONFERENCE COMMITTEE AMENDMENT "A" to COMMITTEE AMENDMENT "A" to S.P. 368, L.D. 1204, Bill, "AN ACT Amending Laws Relating to Hospitalization of the Mentally Ill."

Amend said Amendment in the 3rd paragraph by striking out in the 3rd line the underlined word "is" and inserting in place thereof the underlined words 'may be'

Further amend said Amendment in the 3rd paragraph by striking out in the 7th line the underlined words "the nearest known and" and inserting in place thereof the underlined word 'an'

Further amend said Amendment by striking out all of the first 4 lines of the 4th paragraph and inserting in place thereof the following:

'In the event that a certificate relating to the person's likelihood of serious harm shall not be executed by the examiner under section 2333, the officer shall release the person from protective custody, and, with'

Statement of Fact

This amendment eliminates:

- 1. The necessity for going to the nearest physician, as the nearest physician to a person in a rural area is not always a physician whose office is located in the population center nearest to that person; and
- 2. The requirement that a law enforcement officer make a preliminary judgment that a person is mentally ill. This change permits the officer merely to judge that the person's actions pose a threat of physical harm to himself or others.

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June 18, 1975. (Filing No. S-337).