

MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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ONE HUNDRED AND SEVENTH LEGISLATURE

Legislative Document

No. 1231

S. P. 380

In Senate, March 24, 1975

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

HARRY N. STARBRANCH, Secretary

Presented by Mr. Curtis of Penobscot.

STATE OF MAINE

IN THE YEAR OF OUR LORD NINETEEN HUNDRED
SEVENTY-FIVE

**RESOLVE, Authorizing the Destruction of Student Fingerprint Cards
Maintained by State.**

Destruction of student fingerprint cards, authorized. Resolved: That the State Archivist is authorized to destroy the student fingerprint cards which were transferred by the Maine State Police to his custody upon the termination of the student fingerprint program by Public Law 1973, chapter 5.

STATEMENT OF FACT

The Revised Statutes, Title 25, section 1548, as enacted by Public Law 1943, chapter 336, required that all children in the State attending public schools be fingerprinted for civilian identification under the supervision of the Commissioner of Education and the State Bureau of Identification as a requirement of matriculation. The 106th Legislature, when it repealed this requirement in 1973, did not provide for the destruction of the 32 cubic feet of fingerprint cards accumulated from 1943 to 1973. These records, though determined by the State Archivist to have no permanent value to the State, were transferred to his custody for limited retrieval on the recommendation of the Attorney General because of their possible value in establishing the identification of unknown persons involved in various disasters or offenses. The purpose of this resolve is to authorize the destruction of these records as a matter of public policy.