

# MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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ONE HUNDRED AND SEVENTH LEGISLATURE

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Legislative Document

No. 1511

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S. P. 452

In Senate, April 7, 1975

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

HARRY N. STARBRANCH, Secretary

Presented by Senator Curtis of Penobscot.

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STATE OF MAINE

IN THE YEAR OF OUR LORD NINETEEN HUNDRED  
SEVENTY-FIVE

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AN ACT to Increase the Maximum Penalty for Shoplifting and Provide for the Detainment of Persons Suspected of Shoplifting.

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

17 MRSA § 3501 is repealed and the following enacted in place thereof:

§ 3501. Willful concealment of merchandise

Whoever, without authority, willfully conceals the goods or merchandise of any store, while still upon the premises of such store, shall be punished by a fine of not more than \$300, or by imprisonment for not more than 12 months, or by both. Goods or merchandise found concealed upon the person shall be prima facie evidence of a willful concealment. A store owner, manager, supervisor, or employee over 25 years old may detain on the premises in a reasonable manner for a reasonable period of time any person concealing merchandise in order to summon a law officer or peace officer to the store for the purpose of investigation and making an arrest, if the facts so warrant.

STATEMENT OF FACT

This bill increases the maximum penalty for shoplifting and provides for the detainment of persons suspected of shoplifting.