

MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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(EMERGENCY)
FIRST SPECIAL SESSION

ONE HUNDRED AND SEVENTH LEGISLATURE

Legislative Document

No. 2038

H. P. 1867

House of Representatives, January 21, 1976

Referred to Committee on Local and County Government. Sent up for concurrence and ordered printed.

EDWIN H. PERT, Clerk

Presented by Mr. Gray of Rockland.

STATE OF MAINE

IN THE YEAR OF OUR LORD NINETEEN HUNDRED
SEVENTY-SIX

**AN ACT Concerning the Transition to County Commissioner
Districts in Knox County.**

Emergency preamble. Whereas, Acts of the Legislature do not become effective until 90 days after adjournment unless enacted as emergencies; and

Whereas, chapter 405 of the public laws of 1975 establishes commissioner districts for Knox County; and

Whereas, chapter 332 of the public laws of 1975 provides for 4-year terms for county commissioners instead of 6-year terms and thus invalidates the present transition provisions of chapter 405; and

Whereas, the present Act amends the transition provisions of chapter 405 in orders to conform to the 4-year statutory terms for county commissioners; and

Whereas, the present Act will affect the election of county commissioners in 1976 and will therefore affect the nomination process for candidates for county commissioner which begins during the spring of 1976; and

Whereas, it is imperative that this Act become effective as soon as possible in order to avoid needless confusion and interference with this nomination process; and

Whereas, in the judgment of the Legislature, these facts create an emergency within the meaning of the Constitution of Maine and require the follow-

ing legislation as immediately necessary for the preservation of the public peace, health and safety; now, therefore,

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

PL 1975 c. 405, § 2 is repealed and the following enacted in place thereof:

Sec. 2. Transition. The transition to the Knox County district system shall be made in the following manner: In 1976, a commissioner shall be elected by the qualified voters of district 2 to represent district 2. In 1978, a commissioner shall be elected by the qualified voters of district 1 to represent district 1. In 1980, a commissioner shall be elected by the qualified voters of district 2 to represent district 2 and a commissioner shall be elected by the qualified voters of district 3 to represent district 3. Thereafter, elections shall continue in a manner so that each district shall at all times be represented on the board of commissioners.

Emergency clause. In view of the emergency cited in the preamble, this Act shall take effect when approved.

STATEMENT OF FACT

The purpose of this bill is to provide for a transition provision different from that contained in chapter 405 of the public laws of 1975 and thus, to avoid possible confusion caused by the enactment of chapter 332 of the public laws of 1975, which provides for 4-year terms for county commissioners.