

MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

The following document is provided by the
LAW AND LEGISLATIVE DIGITAL LIBRARY
at the Maine State Law and Legislative Reference Library
<http://legislature.maine.gov/lawlib>



Reproduced from scanned originals with text recognition applied
(searchable text may contain some errors and/or omissions)

ONE HUNDRED AND EIGHTH LEGISLATURE

Legislative Document

No. 38

S. P. 25

In Senate, January 6, 1977

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

MAY M. ROSS, Secretary

Presented by Senator Collins of Knox.

STATE OF MAINE

IN THE YEAR OF OUR LORD NINETEEN HUNDRED
SEVENTY-SEVEN

**AN ACT Relating to Appointment, Duties, Salary and
Expenses of Court Reporters.**

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

Sec. 1. 4 MRSA § 651, as last amended by PL 1975, c. 383, § 11, is repealed and the following enacted in its place:

§ 651. **Appointment and duties; salary and expenses**

The Chief Justice may appoint Official Court Reporters to serve at his pleasure, the total number of which shall not exceed the total number of active Superior Court Justices by more than 2, who shall report the proceedings in the Supreme Judicial Court and in the Superior Court. Official Court Reporters shall be compensated as determined by the Chief Justice. They shall take full notes of all oral testimony and other proceedings in the trial of civil and criminal actions, including the charge of the justice in all trials before a jury and all comments and rulings of that justice in the presence of the jury during the progress of the trial, as well as all statements and arguments of counsel addressed to the court, and during the trial furnish for the use of the court or either of the parties a transcript of so much of their notes as the presiding justice may direct. They shall furnish a transcript of so much of the evidence and other proceedings taken by them as either party to the trial requires, at a rate to be determined by the Chief Justice. Official Court Reporters shall receive from the State their expenses when in attendance upon the court or proceeding away from their city or town of residence but not otherwise. A detailed statement of these expenses actually and reasonably incurred shall be approved by the Chief Justice or his designee.

The Chief Justice or his designee may appoint temporary Court Reporters to serve at his pleasure, to fulfill the duties of Official Court Reporters whenever it may seem necessary to him to carry out the functions and duties of the court. While in the performance of their temporary duties, these Court Reporters shall receive the same compensation and expenses as approved by the Chief Justice for, and shall have all the powers and duties of, Official Court Reporters.

The Supreme Judicial Court shall prescribe rules, requirements and regulations, not inconsistent with this Title or other laws of the State, which will insure the production of a readable record of proceedings before the District Court by stenographic methods or any other suitable means, including but not limited to, electronic recording equipment.

Sec. 2. 4 MRSA § 652, as last repealed and replaced by PL 1975, c. 408, § 28, is repealed and the following enacted in its place:

§ 652. Approval and payment of reporters' expenses

All expense statements of court reporters, pursuant to the 2nd paragraph of section 651, shall be submitted to the office of the Chief Justice of the Supreme Judicial Court or his designee and shall be approved by him or his designee before payment by the Treasurer of State.

STATEMENT OF FACT

The purpose of this bill is to amend the laws relating to the appointment, duties, salary and expenses of Court Reporters.