

# MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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ONE HUNDRED AND EIGHTH LEGISLATURE

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**Legislative Document**

**No. 104**

H. P. 84

House of Representatives, January 18, 1977

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

EDWIN H. PERT, Clerk

Presented by Mr. Greenlaw of Stonington.

Cosponsors: Mr. Spencer of Standish, Mr. Peterson of Caribou, Mr. Gould of Old Town.

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STATE OF MAINE

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IN THE YEAR OF OUR LORD NINETEEN HUNDRED  
SEVENTY-SEVEN

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**AN ACT Relating to Resident State Police Troopers.**

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

Whereas, there is a serious shortage of law enforcement personnel within the Maine State Police; and

Whereas, to correct this shortage there is an urgent need to enlist additional troopers; and

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

**Sec. 1. 25 MRSA § 1508 is enacted to read:**

**§ 1508. Resident state police troopers**

The Chief of the State Police may assign not more than 50 members from the state police force as resident state troopers in addition to the regular state police force to be employed and empowered as state troopers in any town or 2 or more adjoining towns lacking a full-time organized police force, and these officers may be detailed by the chief as resident state police troopers

for regular assignment to the towns, provided each of these towns shall pay an equitable share of the cost of compensation, maintenance and other expenses of such detail, that share to be determined by the Chief of the State Police and these towns, with the approval of the Commissioner of Finance and Administration. This town or these towns and the Chief of the State Police are authorized to enter into agreements and contracts for these police services, with the approval of the Commissioner of Finance and Administration and the Attorney General for 2-year periods.

The Chief of the State Police shall exercise such supervision and direction over any resident state trooper so appointed as he deems necessary according to the rules and regulations of the Bureau of State Police. Each resident state trooper shall have the same powers as officers of the state police force and shall be entitled to the same rights and benefits, and shall be subject to the same rules and regulations as members of the Bureau of State Police.

In order to implement the provisions and purposes of this section, all towns or groups of towns may commit local tax funds and are authorized to receive funds from the State, county or Federal Government or any public or private organization which may now or in the future provide funds for this purpose.

**Sec. 2. Appropriation and Allocation.** In addition to such funds committed by local tax authority, there is appropriated from the General Fund to the Department of Public Safety, Bureau of State Police, the sum of \$144,132 for the fiscal year ending June 30, 1978, and \$97,759 for the fiscal year ending June 30, 1979; and there is allocated from the income of the General Highway Fund the sum of \$432,395 for the fiscal year ending June 30, 1978, and \$293,278 for the fiscal year ending June 30, 1979, to carry out the purposes of this Act. The breakdown shall be as follows:

	1977-78	1978-79
PUBLIC SAFETY, DEPARTMENT OF		
Bureau of State Police		
Personal Services	(25) \$279,065	(25) \$293,923
All Other	130,362	97,114
Capital Expenditures	167,100	
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Total	\$576,527	\$391,037

**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 funds for additional troopers in the Maine State Police.