# MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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## ONE HUNDRED AND EIGHTH LEGISLATURE

# Legislative Document

No. 697

H. P. 573

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

EDWIN H. PERT, Clerk

Presented by Mrs. Byers of Newcastle.

### STATE OF MAINE

IN THE YEAR OF OUR LORD NINETEEN HUNDRED SEVENTY-SEVEN

AN ACT Relating to Challenge Process in Jury Selection.

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

14 MRSA § 1255, as last amended by PL 1975, c. 735, § 15, is further amended by adding at the end, the following new sentence:

The Supreme Judicial Court may by rule provide in civil actions that the parties or their attorneys upon request shall be permitted limited examination of prospective jurors on voir dire during jury selection.

#### STATEMENT OF FACT

The purpose of this bill is to permit parties to a civil action limited opportunity to question prospective jurors during jury selection, thereby reducing the element of chance and making more meaningful the challenge process in jury selection.