

MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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ONE HUNDRED AND EIGHTH LEGISLATURE

Legislative Document

No. 1197

H. P. 986

House of Representatives, March 23, 1977

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

EDWIN H. PERT, Clerk

Presented by Mr. Joyce of Portland.

STATE OF MAINE

IN THE YEAR OF OUR LORD NINETEEN HUNDRED
SEVENTY-SEVEN

AN ACT Relating to the Use of Governmental Records by the Attorney
General.

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

5 MRSA § 200-A, as enacted by PL 1967, c. 58, § 1, is amended by adding at the end the following new paragraph:

All information in the files or possession of any department, commission or agency of State Government, regardless of any statute relating to confidentiality, shall be available to the division for use in carrying out its criminal justice responsibilities.

STATEMENT OF FACT

Historically, criminal investigations conducted by the Attorney General into serious crimes have often been impeded by the inability of the Criminal Division of the department to obtain information maintained by state agencies and protected by a general confidentiality provision. This bill merely clarifies authority given to the Attorney General to have access to records for criminal prosecution purposes only, which authority is presently found in Title 5, section 200-C. This bill further clarifies existing law.