

MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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SECOND REGULAR SESSION

ONE HUNDRED AND EIGHTH LEGISLATURE

Legislative Document

No. 1957

H. P. 1900

Office of the Clerk of the House

EDWIN H. PERT, Clerk

Filed by the Joint Standing Committee on Judiciary under Joint Rule 17, pursuant to H. P. 1730.

STATE OF MAINE

IN THE YEAR OF OUR LORD NINETEEN HUNDRED
SEVENTY-EIGHT

**AN ACT to Authorize the Supreme Judicial Court to Establish by Rule a Committee on
Judicial Responsibility and Disability.**

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

4 MRSA § 9-B is enacted to read:

§ 9-B. Committee on judicial responsibility and disability

The Supreme Judicial Court shall have the power and authority to prescribe, repeal, add to, amend or modify rules relating to a committee to receive complaints, make investigations and make recommendations to the Supreme Judicial Court in regard to discipline, disability, retirement or removal of justices of the Supreme Judicial Court and the Superior Court and judges of the District Court, the probate courts and the Administrative Court.

STATEMENT OF FACT

This bill is one of the results of a study, authorized by the Legislature, of procedures for the nomination of judicial officers and for review of their conduct. The study was carried out by the Judicial Council in consultation with the Joint Standing Committee on Judiciary.

This bill authorizes the Supreme Judicial Court to issue rules for the establishment of a committee to receive complaints, investigate and make recommendations to the court in regard to discipline, disability, retirement or removal of judges. Similar committees have been established in most other states and have been established by rule of court in a number of states, including New Hampshire and Massachusetts.