

MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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FIRST REGULAR SESSION

ONE HUNDRED AND NINTH LEGISLATURE

Legislative Document

No. 397

H. P. 302

House of Representatives, February 7, 1979

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

EDWIN H. PERT, Clerk

Presented by Mrs. Kany of Waterville.

Cosponsors: Mr. Gwadosky of Fairfield, Mr. Laffin of Westbrook.

STATE OF MAINE

IN THE YEAR OF OUR LORD NINETEEN HUNDRED
SEVENTY-NINE

**AN ACT to Establish more Convenient Hours to Permit Easier Access to Small
Claims Court.**

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

Sec. 1. 4 MRSA § 164, sub-§ 3, is amended to read:

3. Days and hours for holding court. Fix the days and hours for holding court in each division, **consistent with section 181;**

Sec. 2. 4 MRSA § 181 is enacted to read:

§ 181. Hours for small claims

In each district, at least one District Court shall be available for at least one hour, one evening per month for the hearing of small claims under Title 14, chapter 737. The office of the clerk to that District Court shall open at the same time to receive any small claims' notices.

STATEMENT OF FACT

This bill requires that at least one District Court in each district will be available for small claims during evening hours. The bill should result in no increased costs in operating District Courts. The Chief Judge of the District Court

has authority to establish the hours of operation and may accommodate the requirements of this bill without increasing working hours or expending more funds.