

MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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FIRST REGULAR SESSION

ONE HUNDRED AND NINTH LEGISLATURE

Legislative Document

No. 522

H. P. 401

House of Representatives, February 13, 1979

Referred to the Committee on Local and County Government. Sent up for concurrence and 1,800 ordered printed.

EDWIN H. PERT, Clerk

Presented by Mr. Dutremble of Biddeford.

STATE OF MAINE

IN THE YEAR OF OUR LORD NINETEEN HUNDRED
SEVENTY-NINE

**AN ACT to Require Small Municipalities to Provide a Full-time Law
Enforcement Officer.**

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

30 MRSA § 2365 is enacted to read:

§ 2365. Law enforcement officer requirements for small municipalities

1. **Law enforcement officer requirement for municipalities.** If a municipality has a population over 800, according to the latest United States census, the municipal officers shall appoint a full-time police officer or constable. The municipality shall:

- A. Pay the officer's or constable's salary;
- B. Provide a patrol car or pay the officer or constable 18¢ for each mile the officer travels in his own car on official business; and
- C. Provide all equipment and materials necessary for the officer or constable to carry out his duties.

The municipality may decide to place its officer or constable under the control and supervision of the county sheriff.

2. Waiver. If the municipality population has fallen below 800 since the last census, the municipality may apply to the Department of Public Safety for a waiver from the requirements of this section. The department shall monitor compliance with this section.

STATEMENT OF FACT

The purpose of this bill is to require municipalities with a population of over 800 to appoint a full-time police officer or constable.