

MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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FIRST REGULAR SESSION

ONE HUNDRED AND NINTH LEGISLATURE

Legislative Document

No. 1398

H. P. 1129

House of Representatives, March 21, 1979

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

EDWIN H. PERT, Clerk

Presented by Mr. Brannigan of Portland.

STATE OF MAINE

IN THE YEAR OF OUR LORD NINETEEN HUNDRED
SEVENTY-NINE

AN ACT to Increase Fees Charged by Bail Commissioners.

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

14 MRSA § 5542, 2nd ¶, as amended by PL 1975, c. 205, is further amended to read:

Such bail commissioners shall receive not exceeding the sum of ~~\$10~~ **\$20** for the charges pursuant to which the defendant is presently in custody. If a bail commissioner takes bail after 8:00 p.m. and prior to 8:00 a.m. of the following day, he shall be permitted to receive a charge of up to ~~\$15~~ **\$30** for the occasion of taking such bail, but the sum of ~~\$15~~ **\$30** shall be the maximum amount for the aggregate of all the cases then pending against such person, and said charge shall not be in addition to the charge for the aggregate of all cases then pending otherwise authorized in this section, but shall be inclusive of such charge of charges.

STATEMENT OF FACT

The purpose of this bill is to increase the fees charged by bail commissioners to \$20 during the day and \$30 at night.

In their capacity as judicial officers, bail commissioners remove the burden from judges, of being called at all hours of the day or night, to perform a vital function of the judicial system. In order for our courts to be able to rely on the availability of highly qualified individuals to fill these appointive offices, the fees they are permitted to charge, should be adjusted to reflect a remuneration compatible to the duties performed.