

MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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FIRST REGULAR SESSION

ONE HUNDRED AND TENTH LEGISLATURE

Legislative Document

No. 308

H. P. 277

House of Representatives, January 20, 1981

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

EDWIN H. PERT, Clerk

Presented by Ms. Lund of Augusta.

STATE OF MAINE

IN THE YEAR OF OUR LORD NINETEEN HUNDRED AND EIGHTY-ONE

AN ACT Concerning the Process for Collecting Fines Imposed for Civil Violations and Traffic Infractions.

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

Sec. 1. 17-A MRSA § 17, sub-§ 4, as enacted by PL 1975, c. 740, § 22, is amended to read:

4. Any person who fails to appear in court, as directed by a citation served on him pursuant to subsection 1, ~~is guilty of a Class E crime~~ **may be arrested on a warrant. The court may require the person to post bail for future court appearances. Upon a failure to appear, the court may issue a warrant of arrest. Additionally, upon a failure to appear, the person may be prosecuted as for a Class E crime.** It is an affirmative defense to prosecution under this subsection that the failure to appear was neither intentional nor knowing.

Sec. 2. 17-A MRSA § 1304, sub-§ 1, as enacted by PL 1975, c. 499, § 1, is amended by adding at the end a new sentence to read:

The procedure provided in this section shall be applicable in default in payment of fines imposed in civil violations and traffic infractions.

STATEMENT OF FACT

The purpose of this bill is to improve the process for collecting fines imposed for civil violations and traffic infractions.