

# MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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STATE OF MAINE  
SENATE (Filing No. S-67)  
110TH LEGISLATURE  
FIRST REGULAR SESSION

D. OF R.

COMMITTEE AMENDMENT "B" to S.P. 145, L.D. 316, Bill,  
"AN ACT to Provide Collective Bargaining Rights to County  
Employees."

Amend the Bill by inserting after the enacting clause  
the following:

'Sec. 1. 26 MRSA §962, sub-§2, as last amended by  
PL 1973, c. 458, §1, is further amended to read:

2. Bargaining agent. "Bargaining agent" means any  
lawful organization, association or individual representative  
of such organization or association which has as its  
primary purpose the representation of employees in their  
employment relations with employers, and, except with  
regard to employees of counties or their subdivisions, which  
has been determined by the public employer or by the executive  
director of the board to be the choice of the majority of  
the unit as their representative.'

Further amend the Bill by inserting at the beginning  
of the first line after the enacting clause the underlined  
abbreviation and figure 'Sec. 2.'

Further amend the Bill by inserting at the end before  
the Statement of Fact the following:

'Sec. 3. 26 MRSA §967, sub-§3 is enacted to read:

3. Employees of counties and subdivisions. Nothing in  
this section may be applied to any county or any subdivision  
thereof.

J. OF R.

Sec. 4. 26 MRSA §975 is enacted to read:

§975. Policy of State concerning county employees

It is the public policy of this State that any contract or agreement entered into between a county or any subdivision thereof and any labor organization, under the terms of which contract or agreement the labor organization is empowered, or purports to be empowered, to represent any public employee of the county or subdivision who is not a voluntary member of the labor organization, is unlawful and is declared to be null and void.

Sec. 5. Application. This Act does not affect the validity of any lawful contract or agreement in existence on the date this Act becomes effective, but does apply to any extension or renewal of such contract or agreement.'

Statement of Fact

This amendment would allow county employees to be represented by unions on a voluntary basis. Under this bill, each county worker would be free to choose whether or not to be represented by one or any union. Also, this bill eliminates any suggested burden upon such a union to represent and bargain for nonmembers.

Reported in Report "C" by the Committee on Labor.

Reproduced and distributed pursuant to Senate Rule 11-A.  
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