

MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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FIRST REGULAR SESSION

ONE HUNDRED AND TENTH LEGISLATURE

Legislative Document

No. 634

H. P. 560

House of Representatives, February 4, 1981

Speaker laid before the House and on Motion of Representative Pearson of Old Town, referred to the Committee on Appropriations and Financial Affairs. Sent up for concurrence and ordered printed.

EDWIN H. PERT, Clerk

Presented by Representative Kelleher of Bangor.

Cosponsor: Senator Perkins of Hancock.

STATE OF MAINE

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

AN ACT Relating to and Increasing the Appropriation of Funds for Assistant District Attorneys.

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

Sec. 1. 30 MRSA § 554-A, sub-§ 1, 2nd ¶, last sentence, as repealed and replaced by PL 1977, c. 579, ¶E, § 3, is amended to read:

Notwithstanding any other provision of law, any full-time assistant district attorney designated as a deputy district attorney may receive a salary up to ~~80%~~ 90% of the salary designated for the district attorney.

Sec. 2. 30 MRSA § 554-A, sub-§ 3, 2nd sentence, as repealed and replaced by PL 1977, c. 579, Pt. E, § 4, is amended to read:

Salaries for full-time assistants shall not exceed ~~70%~~ 80% of the salary designated for the district attorney.

Sec. 3. 30 MRSA § 554-A, sub-§ 3, 3rd sentence, as amended by PL 1979, c. 542, Pt. C, § 1, is further amended to read:

Salaries for part-time assistants shall not exceed ~~40%~~ 50% of the salary designated for the district attorney ~~or \$13,000 whichever is greater.~~

Sec. 4. 30 MRSA § 554-A, sub-§ 5, as repealed and replaced by PL 1979, c. 663, § 191, is repealed and the following enacted in its place:

5. Compensation for assistant district attorneys. For the compensation of assistant district attorneys, the district attorneys shall be allowed annually sums up to the limit of \$26,775, and 40¢ for each person constituting the population of his district according to the latest Federal Decennial Census. In addition to the sums allowed in this section, funds shall be provided for fringe benefits for which other state employees are eligible.

STATEMENT OF FACT

The purpose of this bill is to provide for uniformity of funding, salary increases and funds for new positions for assistant district attorneys throughout the State. Enactment of this bill will require an additional appropriation of approximately \$139,000 per year over current funding levels. If the State is going to attract and retain qualified and experienced counsel to represent victims of crime and oversee the enforcement of law, it must show a willingness to compensate prosecutors at a level commensurate with the responsibility they bear.