

MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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FIRST REGULAR SESSION

ONE HUNDRED AND TENTH LEGISLATURE

Legislative Document

No. 1041

H. P. 872

House of Representatives, February 26, 1981

Referred to the Committee on Health and Institutional Services. Sent up for concurrence and ordered printed.

EDWIN H. PERT, Clerk

Presented by Representative Brodeur of Auburn.

Cosponsors: Representative Boyce of Auburn, Senator T. Perkins of Hancock and Representative Randall of East Machias.

STATE OF MAINE

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

AN ACT Relating to Furloughs for Inmates of County Jails.

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

34 MRSA § 1008, first ¶, as enacted by PL 1975, c. 191, § 2, is amended by adding at the end a new sentence to read:

Furlough may also be granted for any reason consistent with the treatment and rehabilitation of an inmate or prisoner who: Has been sentenced to the county jail for more than 60 days; has served at least 1/3 of his sentence; has obeyed all the rules and regulations; and meets guidelines which the sheriff shall establish for those purposes. No furlough may be granted more often than once a month.

STATEMENT OF FACT

This bill clarifies the conditions under which sheriffs can grant furloughs for other than visits to dying relatives or medical services.

County jails now, due to overcrowding and programs, house inmates from Maine State Prison and the Maine Correctional Center who are authorized furloughs while county jail inmates are not. County jail inmates are confined for lesser offenses than those at the state institutions and should have the same

privileges. Persons are now being sentenced to county jails for longer periods of time.

Guidelines will be same as those set forth by the Bureau of Corrections for their institutions.