

# MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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STATE OF MAINE  
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES (Filing No. H-418)  
110TH LEGISLATURE  
FIRST REGULAR SESSION

COMMITTEE AMENDMENT "A" to H.P. 1095, L.D. 1292, Bill, "AN ACT to Improve County Budget and Financial Procedures."

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

'Sec. 1. 30 MRSA §§66 and 67 are enacted to read:

§66. County commissioners' authority

The county commissioners shall have final authority over the operation of all county offices by elected or appointed county officers.

§67. Civil violation

Any county officer who fails to follow the requirements of this chapter commits a civil violation for which a forfeiture of not more than \$200 may be adjudged.'

Further amend the Bill in section 4 by striking out everything after the amending clause and inserting in its place the following: 'The county commissioners shall be responsible for the proper financial administration of each county department or agency and for approving county expenditures.'

Further amend the Bill in section 6 by striking out everything after the amending clause and inserting in its place the following:

'§409. Bonds

A county having occasion to issue bonds may make them payable in installments extending over a period ~~of not more than 50 years~~ to be determined by the Legislature.'

Further amend the Bill by inserting after section 7 the following:

'Sec. 8. 30 MRSA §412, as enacted by PL 1969, c. 393, is repealed.'

Further amend the Bill by renumbering the sections to read consecutively.

Statement of Fact

This amendment adds a new section to the bill to make it clear that the county commissioners have ultimate authority over the operation of county government and to provide a civil penalty for county officers who violate any provision of the county statutes. It also adds a section repealing the requirement that Androscoggin County spend funds on programs for child and family services. The amendment also gives county commissioners responsibility for approving county expenditures. Finally, the amendment permits the Legislature to establish the length of the period of repayment of a bond issued by a county on a case-by-case basis.

Reported by the Committee on Local and County Government.  
Reproduced and distributed under the direction of the Clerk  
of the House.

5/18/81

(Filing No. H-418)