

MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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1 SECOND REGULAR SESSION
2

3 ONE HUNDRED AND TENTH LEGISLATURE
4

5 **Legislative Document**

No. 1848

6
7 S. P. 780 In Senate, January 19, 1982
Approved for introduction by the Legislative Council
pursuant to Joint Rule 26. Referred to the Committee on Judiciary
and ordered printed. Sent down for concurrence.

MAY M. ROSS, Secretary of the Senate

8 Presented by Senator Devoe of Penobscot.

9
10 STATE OF MAINE
11

12 IN THE YEAR OF OUR LORD
13 NINETEEN HUNDRED AND EIGHTY-TWO
14

15 AN ACT to Allow the Transfer of Venue of Civil Actions
16 Without the Agreement of the Parties.
17

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

19 14 MRSA §508, first paragraph, as repealed and replaced
20 by 1975, c. 337, §1, is amended by adding at the end a new
21 sentence to read:

22 In the interests of justice and to secure the speedy trial
23 of an action, or for other good cause, a presiding Justice
24 of the Superior Court may, in his discretion, transfer any
25 civil action or proceeding to another county.

1 STATEMENT OF FACT

2 In some counties there are significant backlogs in the
3 processing of civil trials. At the same time, there is a
4 statutory provision which forbids transfer of a case from
5 one county to an adjoining county unless all parties to the
6 action consent. This bill would give authority to a Justice
7 of the Superior Court to make such a change of venue, in his
8 discretion, when it appears that it is necessary in the
9 interests of justice and in the context of such a backlog to
10 transfer a civil matter to an adjoining county for purposes
11 of trial.

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